

Mrs. Lowe's Official Greeting.

THE CLUB WOMAN

The Official Organ of the G. F. W. C. Board and of the Local Board of the Milwaukee Biennial

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VOLUME V.

BOSTON, JANUARY 1900.

NUMBER 4

Helen M. Winslow,

Editor and Publisher

NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

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Greetings and good wishes for the club women of the world. Hoping that every club and every club woman will begin the new year of the new century with renewed determination to wield mightily for good that power and influence which has come to them through union.

It is significant that the initial year of the twentieth century—which some call the woman's century—should witness the first appearance of the General Federation beyond the seas. Our Paris congresses will demonstrate our determination to "go up and possess the land," and the meeting there of women of all nations will do much to perfect the bond of organization which is our only strength.

The club women of America and the world are fast learning this lesson of organization. Does our duty end here? Must we not pass it on to the strugglers about us and teach them, too, that union is their strength?

Let our dream of the new century be a time when all women of all classes, in all nations, shall stand close together, pushing forward, shoulder to shoulder, for the achievement of all good things in the world where they, the mothers of the race, are ever playing the largest stakes. May the club women of America work zealously and without ceasing to make this dream come true.

Rebecca D. Lowe.

"The more I read The Club Woman the stronger grows the conviction that it should be read by every club woman if she wishes to keep informed what the women's clubs are doing and in touch with the work," writes a club president. "Next Tuesday we shall act on the Massachusetts plan for 'reorganization.' It will be a good opportunity to bring the attention of the club to the value of The Club Woman as a help toward broadening our views and making our club life more healthful and helpful. Are there club rates?"

Yes; we make a rate to clubs everywhere of 75 cents to groups of six subscribers and upwards. Will not other club presidents who believe in The Club Woman, and "their name is legion," bring this matter to the attention of their clubs?

Remember your Club Woman will be sent until it is ordered discontinued. We have adopted this plan because over nine-tenths of our subscribers renew and are very unwilling to lose a number. So, if you belong to "the submerged tenth"—that is, if you wish to drop from our list, please let us hear from you to that effect as soon as you are notified that your subscription has expired.

Several reports of State Federation meetings held in October had to be held over from the last number on account of the great pressure on our space, which, be it noted, has been doubled over our first issue. Those reports will be found in the present issue.

Cannot you act as agent for The Club Woman in your own town or among your own friends?

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"THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

"DON'T you feel that it is a dreadful thing in club members to discuss the 'rows' of their clubs in public places?" writes a subscriber. "A few days ago, on the train, I overheard two club women discussing their respective clubs. The word 'rows' occurred several times. Like Mrs. Brown, I began to soliloquize thereat. Our women's clubs are so different from men's, in that they are not composed of persons who are all in one grade of society, or of one interest, or of one business or occupation. We have, perhaps, the common interest only of being wives, mothers, housekeepers. Each mother, especially, feels a tie that binds her to other mothers and prevents her from holding aloof from uncongenial club members. Being of such mixed aims and purposes, members are too often unsympathizing with others. In men's clubs I believe this does not obtain, because the formative influence is perhaps less broad, or more specific. Why cannot there be a more tolerant spirit among us, so that 'rows' will not occur? The woman who is ignorant through lack of opportunity must bear with what she feels is 'high-flownness' in another member, whose outlook upon life has been from the sunny heights, and to whom, in consequence, it comes easy to be enthusiastic about what seems scarcely worthy to be called common sense to the first woman. Children and ignorant elders are proverbially less tolerant than those who are truly cultured and refined."

And what is it to be "cultured and refined" but to be gentle and forbearing and tolerant? What is culture, anyway, and what sort of culture should we strive for? The selfish kind, that has only one's own personal enjoyment for its aim, or that larger variety which aims at something above self, which grasps at the eternal and whose outlook takes in all humanity? The woman who is truly refined or who is attaining unto real culture will not air her "club rows" in public places. There is a type of the feminine gender that delights in holding forth on the subject of her family or her neighborhood troubles in the street cars; and who enjoys the more or less sympathetic attention of her fellow-passengers. But nobody would be guilty of describing her as "truly cultured and refined." The club woman who gives out the troubles of her club before a promiscuous audience belongs in the same category.

A writer in a Chicago evening paper, in an attempted diatribe against club women, says: "Charles Lamb could never have written his famous essay on 'Roast Pig' after a well-selected course of reading on diet, undertaken for the sake of writing a 'club paper'; and the exquisitely delicate pathos of the 'Poor Relations' could not have been manufactured from a series of careful investigations as to how wealthy persons treat their more poverty-stricken connections." The writer then condescendingly remarks that "the sweet quality of real culture is often connected with the work of women's clubs, which, especially in earlier years, brought the love of books, and the possibility of familiarity with them, into the life of many a weary woman. In the rapid present, however, conditions are somewhat different. The necessity of writing papers and of appearing upon the public platform conversant with current and literary topics, as well as with parliamentary law, opens a pathway to fame which many a club woman enters hoping to win its pinnacle without the sacrifice of a luncheon, a reception or a dressmaker's appointment, and without too sensible a diminution of the necessary beauty sleep which will enable her to appear at her best on the platform."

What kind of a club this woman can have belonged to is a matter of conjecture. Perhaps she had just missed being elected to some office that she wanted; or the club had refused to listen to her own carefully prepared paper on some abstruse subject, "the synopsis of several months' quiet study," which she declares the fashionable club does not want and will not have. Or perhaps she speaks from her own varied experience and is herself that woman who writes a paper today, and "instead of shutting herself in her closet with those delightful early editions which Charles Lamb loved, goes quietly to some shabby woman or seedy man, whose garments bear students' patches, and whispers softly: 'How much will you charge to write me an article on Shakespeare's lyrical endings?'" and that "her eagerness for fame alone frequently leads to curious and unexpected complications, which, if they were revealed, would more than satisfy all her aspirations for wide and permanent notability at least."

But there are not many of her abroad in the land. Club women of today will not put up with that kind of superficial culture for long at a time. Such a woman may possibly get before a club once; but she will not get the second chance. The self-seeking, ambitious woman, the woman who uses the club merely as a pedestal on which to pose before an admiring world, or as a stepping-stone to get into a higher grade of society than she has previously known, having only her own selfish aims at heart, has only a short-lived success, and appears with less frequency with every season. The club does not want and will not keep such women as leaders. Today the club leader must have a higher aim and a broader culture, and, added unto these, a genuine desire to help humanity to better things than the superficial woman who "must stand in the full glare of the footlights at any cost."

More than that, the woman who sees in the club movement of today nothing beyond that very primitive stage when women wrote papers from encyclopediac notes, or when they begged or hired some other person to write them, has not passed the a b c class of the women's clubs. There is a kind of culture that is better than the ability to appreciate Charles Lamb, or even to follow one's favorite "authors in delicious dreams where eternity is entered and the fortunate aspirant is admitted to the society of the Olympians." Very true, it "cannot be acquired by cramming on the lyrical or dramatic endings of Shakespeare's lines, or on the styles of great artists whose names are difficult to spell and terrifying to pronounce." It is something deeper, less selfish and more productive of good to the world around us.

It is in our power to make our lives a beneficence to those who come within our circle. Whether we will or no, the club movement is proving such a beneficence. Let us make our New Year's resolve this: That we will enlarge our vision, that we will broaden our sphere, that we will deepen our love to humanity, that we will be true to our best selves.

Speaking of the prejudice some men have against club women, here is what Dotha Stone Pineo said recently: "The most influential man in a certain society knows intimately one of the archaic sort of club women who doesn't believe in ameliorating the masses, or anything else but THE CLUB which is her club, and I don't blame him for thinking little of such a spirit as that, and kind of thinking we all have it." That is the trouble, no doubt, all along the line. If we show ourselves narrow-minded and selfish, our men friends will judge all club women to be so.

THE EVOLUTION OF A PROGRAM.

By Mrs. Anna L. Palmer, Quincy, Ill.

Read by Mrs. Clara Gordon Coulson, at Quincy, Illinois,
October 19th, 1899.

IN this age, an age of scientific inquiry and investigation; of weighty problems,—domestic, social, political, religious and psychological; there is danger, perhaps, lest the time and thought given to the solution of these questions in a great measure exclude the study of imaginative and purely literary art.

But it is not necessary that the result of scientific or other research should be antagonistic to literature or literary pursuits. Fortunate is he who is able to bring a knowledge of scientific deductions to the investigations of historical and literary subjects.

To gain a clear and comprehensive idea of our own age and nation, with their various complex problems confronting us, it is necessary to have the highest possible conception of the times and races that have preceded us. And since "the history of a nation is the history of its literature," the importance of its study cannot be too greatly overestimated. Lord Bacon in effect said that the history of the world without the history of letters would be as incomplete as the statue of Polyphemus deprived of his single eye!

It is universally conceded that the literature of a nation can be taken as an infallible guide by the investigator of a people's character. How often does some luminous volume reveal to us, like a powerful lens, the psychology of a soul, an age or a race!

We consider with Taine, in this light, "A great poem, a fine novel, the confessions of a superior man, more instructive than a heap of historians with their histories," and value a book in proportion as it represents visible sentiments; the purer and loftier the sentiment, the higher being its place in literature, and conclude that it is chiefly by the study of literature that "one may construct a moral history and advance toward the knowledge of psychological laws from which events spring."

Hamilton W. Mabie, in a recent issue of the *Bookman* says that "If we want the bare fact, we go to history, or, with discrimination, to the newspaper; if we want the logical statement of principles, we go to philosophy; if we want the truth below the fact, as a man of genius divines it, the truth touched with beauty as it lies in the vision of the artist, or irradiated with humor and projected against a background of other and diverse truth, as the humorist sees it, we turn to literature."

Although it is true that literature and the history of it are two different things, it is neither necessary nor usually desirable to separate them. To fully comprehend any literary work it is almost imperative to have some knowledge of the conditions of its conception. And not only is it desirable to have an understanding of the author and the environments under which he wrote, but also a comprehension of the age and its people from every possible point of view, political, physical, moral and intellectual.

In thus reconstructing the author's environments and investigating his origin, there is, perhaps, danger lest we forget the end of study in the means, thereby losing some of the higher spirit of literature. One of the severest criticisms that can be passed upon much of our club work of today is the fact that we sometimes lose ourselves in our material; instead of studying the original work, we read and study the impressions of others concerning the work. It would be well to "Let knowledge and erudition do their perfect work, only let us also see

that they do not suppress but rather subserve the spirit of life within."

The organization of any circle for the purpose of literary study is supposed to be based upon the idea that "In multitude of counsellors there is safety"; and that people with one aim and the desire for intellectual growth and culture, but with different points of view, will receive added zest, stimulus and inspiration from the mutual exchange of impressions and conclusions.

That these ideas have in a great measure been realized can be substantiated by almost every club member. And it is also true that many a young woman, of necessity chiefly occupied by household and domestic cares, and with but little opportunity for individual mental work, has been broadened and lifted up out of herself and beyond the stress of her daily routine work by her association in club life with women of greater leisure and broader intellectual culture. And may every busy woman, whether wife, mother, woman of affairs or day laborer, of whatever race or creed, be given soon the opportunity of becoming at least an associate member of some active literary club.

Our thoughts now turn toward the new club, organized with the determination of becoming a permanent institution, and with the world of letters lying open before it with such a volume of richness that it scarcely knows which page to turn. No fixed rule can be established for its working program. It must be governed entirely according to the requirements of its own personnel and individuality. There is now neither time nor space for the discussion of such questions as the desirability or non-desirability of the written paper or essay as a factor of progress in club culture. But before deciding to abolish the written paper, it may be well to remember that "the essayist is an artist—who selects, arranges and so disposes his materials as to give them the highest effectiveness, the greatest charm or the most searching power," and that "the true essay is as distinctively a work of art as the epic or dramatic poem, the novel or the lyric."

We cannot even now discuss the debated question of physical refreshment as a regular feature of the program, and as an incentive in our search for wisdom. These and all similar questions of club management must be settled by the individual organization; but a few underlying principles have naturally developed themselves in the gradual evolution of club study, and they are these:

Whatever the course of study resolved upon, there must be a determination to be systematic and thorough. Also, too great stress cannot be laid upon concentration, unification and continuity of thought in the evolution of the program. It is a noteworthy fact that the older the club becomes, the more does it unify and specialize its work; frequently first taking a general view of the history of literature and devoting subsequent study to special branches; the more, too, does it simplify and condense its topics, keeping strict account of continuity of thought and relativity of subject.

In making out the program it is well to remember that true culture consists not in a quantity of miscellaneous information, but in the quality of systematized knowledge. It seems that many people regard "Culture as a kind of knapsack which a man straps on his back, and in which he places a vast amount of information, gathered more or less at random in all parts of the world." And too often a club program carries out this idea. It is scarcely exaggeration to say clubs may be found which devote the time of only one or two meetings to such subjects as Shakespeare or Browning, while that of the next may be given to Homer or Dante, with perhaps a paper or two on Tolstoi or the Renaissance of Italy thrown in. That there

is comparatively little of such superficial, disconnected, scattering and overcrowded work among the clubs of this Federation is matter for congratulation. The cause of that little is easily found in the fact that "Art is long and time is fleeting," and in the laudable ambition to meet the requirements or desires of the largest possible number in the shortest possible time.

The chief advantage to be derived from the study of literature is the cultivation of the powers of appreciation of the highest things. We live by what we feed upon. And since "the ability to enjoy the best and only the best is conditional upon intimate acquaintance with the best," the importance of reading the best only is apparent.

Some one has said in times past, "Show me a man's library and I will read you his character." But few of us probably would willingly be subjected to this test; for often our books are either the legacies of departed friends or gifts of living ones. They are the results of neither our individual tastes nor inclinations. And even if the selection be left to ourselves, oft-times we cannot buy the books we most desire. For few of us can there be first, original or limited editions. We fain must be content with "limited" volumes only. But delightful as it must be to have shelves filled with the riches of ages past and present, there is consolation in the thought that we can all possess libraries of the highest value, where our beloved books can be neither defaced by careless handling nor destroyed by the ravages of time. For it is only the books that we read and assimilate, that form our characters and possess us, that we truly possess. And it is with this desire of making a few of the best things in literature a part of ourselves that we should plan our work and evolve our literary program.

The importance of the study of the imaginative and the inspirational as a factor in the highest mental and moral culture must not be overlooked. For without poetry life would be devoid of its greatest pleasures—the powers of imagination, of imitation, of creation and transfiguration.

The every day acts and expressions of our lives are fraught with poetical significance. In poetry "We do live and move and have our being." The very love of our country's flag is an example of our common poetic and imaginative instinct. "Think whether it be not poetry that transfigures a few yards of silk into a flag! The whole of a nation's life and pride, the whole of her past and promise are in that symbol. Can you put into cold type what a nation feels when it is hoisted as a symbol of liberty, or when it is ignominiously trailed beneath the feet of the conquering enemy? Strip it of its symbolism, take from it the meaning with which the imagination has invested it, it remains but a bit of rag, torn with shot and blackened with smoke. Tell now your soldier that he is only fighting for a piece of cloth, and see whether your prosaic, literal truth is as true to him as his poetic symbolism by virtue of which it stands expressive of the spirit and being of the nation."

There lives no soul so base that it cannot be reached and stirred by the depths of feelings revealed in true poetry. The whole gamut of life's experiences lies there revealed; and to every emotion of our own, whether joyous or painful, bright and sparkling as the morning or sad and subdued like the twilight, it responds like the tones of a musical instrument to our touch.

The study of poetry, too, enlarges our souls, and putting us into touch with the throbbing heart of the whole world, quickens our sympathies and knowledge of the wants of others.

The true poet reveals things to us as never seen before; electrifies and illuminates the common objects about us, until at times they seem irradiated with almost celestial light and glory. Our eyes are opened to the beauty around us, and we are brought not only nearer to nature's heart, but to nature's

God as well.

It is in poetic literature that we find the loftiest ideals, the purest motives and the highest incentive to nobility of thought and perfection of expression.

While seeking after the brightest and best, which is the desired end of this evolution of club study, it may be well to keep in mind Wordsworth's exquisite portrait of the ideal woman:

"She was a phantom of delight,
When first she gleamed upon my sight;
A lovely apparition sent
To be a moment's ornament;
Her eyes as stars of twilight fair;
Like twilight's, too, her dusky hair;
But all things else about her drawn
From May-time and the cheerful dawn.

I saw her upon nearer view,
A spirit, yet a woman too!
Her household motions light and free,
And steps of virgin liberty;
A countenance in which did meet
Sweet records, promises as sweet;
A creature not too bright and good
For human nature's daily food;
For transient sorrows, simple wiles,
Praise, blame, love, kisses, tears and smiles,
And now I see with eye serene,
The very pulse of the machine;
A being, breathing thoughtful breath,
A traveler between life and death;
The reason firm, the temperate will,
Endurance, foresight, strength and skill;
A perfect woman, nobly planned,
To warn, to comfort and command;
And yet a spirit still, and bright,
With something of an angel light!"

WHY SHOULDN'T I?

By Helen M. Winslow.

MY canary bird sings the whole day long,
Behind his gilded bars,
Shut in from all that birds enjoy
Under the sun and stars:
The freedom, grace and action fine
Of wild birds he foregoes;
But, spite of that, with happiness
His little heart o'erflows;
'The world is wide,
And birds outside
In happy cheer always abide.
Why shouldn't I?'
'I, too, must dwell behind the bars
Of toil and sacrifice;
From heavy heart and weary brain
My prayers or songs arise;
But all around sad hearts abound,
And troubles worse than mine;
If aught of comfort I can bring
To them, shall I repine?
God's world is wide;
If I can hide
The crowding tears and sing beside,
Why shouldn't I?"

WHAT THE SWEETHAM WOMAN'S CLUB DID.

Caroline C. Shea, Malden, Mass.

THE little town of Sweetnam was a sleepy, poky sort of a place,—alive for a few weeks in summer time, when strangers came to partake of its rustic hospitality and imbibe the beauties of its scenery. After their departure it gradually fell into dreamland, so that by the time December had come and the first heavy snowstorm was a reality, it had settled into a genuine Rip Van Winklean slumber, from which it would slowly wake in time to meet the returning guests with the smiling face of June. Perhaps that was why strangers liked Sweetnam, and certainly it was why some of its inhabitants longed for greener pastures, and finally, in utter desperation, started a "club."

It was a humble little club enough, composed of some twelve or fifteen women, who met afternoons at the different houses, but as soon as they were well started they hoped to "get up something extra," and have an evening meeting to which they should invite the men; in other words, a "gentlemen's night." They knew nothing of the niceties of parliamentary law, but had some idea of the duties of president, secretary and treasurer, and at the outset armed themselves with these officers.

Their plans were rather desultory,—now an afternoon with Longfellow, anon a lesson with Irving. Once a study of electricity and Miles' telegraphy, and again a discussion as to what effect Emerson's teaching would have on youths of unformed religious views. Though there were no shining lights, the work was, on the whole, uplifting and helpful.

One afternoon in the latter part of winter, the papers were on Hawthorne, but were left unread, for a subject of more vital importance was brought up by the youngest member, pretty Helen Green.

It was a bright, pleasant day, and the "club" met at Doctor Mason's, where all loved to go, so most of the members were present. The lady who was to read the first paper was late, and after some one had played a piano solo, Annie began by saying: "What do you suppose, ladies? Father was in Boston last week, and he called on that Miss Waterhouse who boarded with us two years ago."

They all recalled her save Miss Tuxbury, whose memory was refreshed when Helen stated that she was the person who always climbed the hill at sunset for a view of the river.

"You know," continued Helen, "she used to be pretty well off; then her father got sick, and when he was well again his business never amounted to anything; so he gave it up and moved to Boston, and the girls went to work. Soon after, the father died, and left his wife and father for the girls to support."

"How many were there?" asked Mrs. Mason.

"Only two, Anna and Jane; but they were smart, and in busy seasons earned several dollars a day. Father says their home is real comfortable and pretty. The grandfather is most eighty years old, and never leaves his room. They got along all right until last summer, when Miss Waterhouse thought they would go to Bayview for a change, instead of coming here; that was the beginning of their trouble."

The members were much interested when Helen mentioned the word "trouble."

"They were driving one day in the tally-ho belonging to the hotel, and the driver 'had been tastin',' as Ian Maclaren said. The stage was upset and Anna was hurt so badly that she has been sick ever since." Helen waited for expressions of sympathy, and then continued:

"The hotel keeper is rich, but he never offered to give her one cent, and she had to go to law about it. Think of it! She's been laid up for six months, and now her mother is sick. Jane has had to stay at home all the time to take care of Anna, and neither one of them has earned a dollar since."

By this time the late member had slipped into the vacant seat, but Hawthorne was completely forgotten.

"Jane's so worn out now that Anna has to try to sleep in the daytime, so that at night she may sit by her mother's bedside, and give her her medicine—I forgot to tell you that her trouble is all in her leg and that she can't walk a step."

"Won't she, sometime?" asked the late comer.

"Father says she hopes to, she is so much better now. She sits by the sick mother after her sister has arranged everything, and gives her medicine and watches her so that if she is worse Jane may be called."

"We think we have hard times because it is dull here, and not one of us but what is comfortable and happy," sighed Miss Tuxbury.

"Father says they never complained to him, but he knows their money must be gone."

"Who pays the doctor and rent? There's always rent to pay in the city if one isn't rich," spoke up a hitherto silent member.

"Oh, the doctor and landlord are real kind, but you see they think she has a good case against the innkeeper and expect to get paid sometime. But just think of three helpless people, with only one to care for them, and but a few dollars coming in each month. There would be work for both of them if they could only go to it. 'I have sat here for six months, with my leg out straight, and bandaged as you see it,' she said to father, 'and I have not been able to do a thing or earn a cent. The doctor and lawyers are doing all they can for me, but I want my money. Think of it! Easter coming and I can't afford to buy an egg, and as for flowers, well, I suppose they will send some from church, after the service, but it is so beautiful to watch the opening of the lily buds, days before the Sunday on which they bloom.' They are so proud that father did not dare to tell her he would send her some eggs."

"We'll all send her some eggs," interrupted Miss Tuxbury.

"Ladies, I wish we could send something more than eggs," said Helen. "If they ever get any money, it will take it all to pay their debts, father thinks; but Jane hopes to go to work soon."

"What is our work here, after all, when compared to even a cup of cold water in His name," said Mrs. Mason. "We have always said we would celebrate somehow when the winter was over, and we stopped our meetings until fall. Why not, instead of having a big spread, and inviting our friends and boring them to death with papers on Emerson and—the Keeley motor, have something to raise a little money to help those two helpless women?"

"I am sure we write good papers," said the late woman.

Oh, fine!" added Helen; "but the men might go to sleep. I would like to send them dozens of eggs, every one wrapped in a dollar bill."

Helen's enthusiasm enkindled the fires of pity and sympathy in every heart there, and they spent the rest of the "club's" time discussing what might be done.

Two weeks before Easter, a previously advertised sale of Easter millinery was opened in a small store which happened to be vacant. The leading women in the town had already promised to buy Easter bonnets at the sale.

Heretofore Sweetnam people had gone ten miles in the steam cars for a hat, worn a home-made one, or hired some

one with some reputed skill at such work to put together materials bought in the city.

Entertainments talked of did not seem to meet the approval of the "club," and so Mrs. Mason, recently married and come to Sweetham, who had been a milliner, recommended the bonnet scheme, promising to purchase the material and trim, with the others' help, hats enough to supply the feminine portion of the town.

Her plan worked like a charm; orders came in fast, for some who had not expected new bonnets changed their minds for sweet charity's sake, and children's hats were ordered by the dozen.

One old man who did not think much of "clubs" declared that "millinery was bad enough but literature was wus."

Mrs. Mason bought her materials where she was known, and it took all the spare time of the club to make folds, cut bias trimming, plait chiffon, wire frames and line them, while her deft fingers fashioned bonnets and hats after the latest Boston models exhibited to her by an old employee. On Wednesday before Easter a box carefully marked left the Sweetham station for "Miss Anna Waterhouse, 19 B— street, Boston."

The Monday before, by an order left through Mrs. Mason with a Tremont street florist, a fine lily with many promising buds had found its way to the pretty home on a quiet street, which two women were hoping so hard to keep, while they battled with sickness and waited for the dawn which must come after the darkness of night.

The club members had selected only their finest and largest eggs to the number of six dozen, and each one was literally wrapped in a crisp dollar bill. Never was there a happier lot of women than those of the "Sweetham Literary Club" when they went on their regular day, the Friday before Easter, to listen to Helen's paper on "The Quality of Mercy," after which a visitor from Boston read selections from Shakespeare.

It is needless to describe the joy of the sisters Waterhouse, for you all know what it must have been. Tears fell from Jane's eyes as she unpacked the box, "from a few sisters who knew you in Sweetham." It was by Anna's chair, and as her sister unrolled each great brown egg she placed its wrapper in the invalid's lap. "Six dozen," she said, when her task was complete. "And seventy-two new dollar bills," said Anna, who was counting also. "Truly Christ has not risen in vain."

Helen read a letter at the "club" which her father received from the sisters. They knew it must be through his call on Anna that the "sisters in Sweetham" had heard of their troubles."

The contents brought tears to many an eye. "And," said Miss Tuxbury, "if it hadn't been for our having a club we never should have done a thing for them."

"Only father would have sent them a basket of eggs; now they have a full purse, and we all have the loveliest bonnets and hats ever seen in Sweetham."

"The union of clubs in a Federation is a natural outcome of the club idea. It is the recognition of the kinship of women, of whatever creed, opinion, nationality or degree, and is the sign of a bond that entitles every one to equal place; not to charity, or toleration alone, but to consideration and respect."—Mrs. Croly.

"Women's faults are many,
Men have only two,—
Everything they say,
And everything they do."

INTERDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE AND GENERAL FEDERATIONS.

(Read Before I. S. F. W. C. at Quincy, Oct. 19, 1899, by
Eugenia M. Bacon, State Chairman of Correspondence
of G. F. W. C.)

A FRIEND with the large ideas of youth took for the subject of her first composition "The World and its Inhabitants," and was assured by her teacher that if she got through with the world on that occasion she might let the inhabitants go till the next.

My theme today—The Interdependence of the State and General Federations, our world and its inhabitants, the women whom we most admire—is an inexhaustible subject from every standpoint.

The word interdependence is on every lip, and is often made to cover the weakness of parts of an organization.

In discussing the mutual interests of the State and General Federations we have no occasion to say that "united we stand, divided we fall," because each is capable of standing quite well on its own merits.

But if divided, such results can be accomplished, united in cordial co-operation nothing could withstand the onward progress.

That I speak first for the General Federation needs no apology. Many belong to it and know its worth. To such we would say in the language of the Scriptures, and we trust with greater aptness than they are sometimes quoted by public speakers, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

A recent writer has said that women are divided into club women and all other women. In like manner clubs are divided into federated clubs and all other clubs.

It is now quite generally conceded by all except a few clerical gentlemen who, for obvious reasons, wish to direct the entire activity of the women of their flocks, that the woman's club is a benefit to both the individual members and the community at large.

What the single club is to its members, the State and General Federations are to the several states and the nation. When inter-planetary communication is accomplished the G. F. W. C. will doubtless join forces with other worlds in order to belong to the largest thing in the universe; till then the G. F. must wear the crown or sceptre.

There can be two motives in asking the question "Does it pay?" The personal and the impersonal. Does it pay me only, or is someone else also benefited? Whenever a club or individual fails to unite with those organizations which are for the up-building of the community simply because a personal benefit is not immediately received, the motive is not large enough. The limited personal view will blockade almost every enterprise which is undertaken.

Unless they have been disappointed in some expectation of reward and have not learned that "they also serve who only stand and wait," those who attend these great gatherings of the State and General Federations are ready to declare that the benefit is incalculable personally and should be to their clubs through the information, as well as through that much used and abused word which dies so quickly when brought down to the lowlands from the mountain tops—inspiration—which returning delegates furnish. This seems to be the cause of some discussion.

Those who remain at home feel that as but a few can enjoy this privilege it is not worth while for the club to be taxed to furnish these favored ones with so delightful a vacation. Let us

look at this carefully. In the selection of delegates it should be borne in mind that no one should be sent simply because she wants to go. The qualifications for a successful delegate are along quite different lines.

Usually those who have given the greatest service should have this honor conferred, as a mark of appreciation, which is almost the only way in which their labors can be rewarded; and also by this means insuring a body capable of assisting the president of the Federation by a ready understanding of club affairs and needs; and more than this, enabling those who must remain at home to receive the best possible report that can be given second hand.

Moreover, it is time that women looked at great questions in a larger way.

Not "What I receive" alone, but "What can I give?" If this is not possible, then "What can I be the means of helping others to accomplish by a small fee of money?" The thought that so simple a thing can be transmitted into that which will live forever should be reward enough for those who have the right ideas of service. In the vision of Sir Launfal we are told, "Not what we give, but what we share."

To those who belong, it is not necessary to present the claims or benefits of these organizations, the State and General Federations. They have come to mean so much that the wonder is that any club can consent to do without this vital connection with the work of the women of the nation. Much as we love our state we love our country more.

If any state in the Union could afford to do without the G. F. W. C. it would be ours, since we have the next best thing and almost the largest in the world,—the I. F. W. C.

The truth is, however, that the stronger the State Federation the stronger the National ought to be, from the fact that such strength should not be confined within the borders of one state, even such a wonderful one as Illinois, but should overflow like the waters of the Nile and make fertile less favored regions.

"Two are more than twice one. In united interest, plan, effort, a power is generated which is never possessed by separate units."

While Illinois has given much to the G. F. W. C. in four years of service of a president whom all delighted to honor, and whose reign cannot be excelled by any other, we care not from what section she may come, our state has also received much in having this honor conferred upon her.

In recognition of this and in preparation for reorganization we wish every club in the I. F. W. C. would at once come into the G. F. W. C. and send to the next Biennial delegates who would carry home the best reports. In this great meeting of our state let me urge you if not a delegate to attend at least one Biennial and you will understand what has before seemed only rhapsody—"See Naples and die."

No woman should feel, however, that she has any right to die until she has prepared herself at least in part for the emotions which will sway her heart when the great company, which will be mostly feminine, is gathered on the Eternal Shores, by seeing how she enjoys such a scene on this side of the river.

Of course there are scenes in any gathering when one might not be impressed with the heavenly character of the surroundings, but these are but momentary and serve only to heighten the effect of the general spirit of harmony, good fellowship and altruism which sends these women on errands of mercy to the remotest parts of our country and its darkest spots.

We have all felt proud of our American women at the International Council, and did we rejoice the less because we were not there to witness the meeting of Susan B. Anthony and

the Queen? Did we not feel that she conferred quite as much honor as she received from royalty? Where but in such an international gathering could American women more truly reflect the glory of our country? Recognizing that these honors and privileges have come through organizations of women, let us regard them with esteem. What do we owe the State and General Federations?

First, our most loyal support, because they are worthy of it, and have shown it to thousands all over our land. And secondly, our courteous treatment of their demands upon us, in the way of prompt and accurate responses to requests from officers for information. It is all very simple and the whole difficulty is solved. Resolve that if elected to the office of president or secretary you will not allow the answering of one business letter to go over till the next day which should be answered today. This rule can be kept, it has been kept by many whose position required the writing of hundreds of letters each year. When new officers are elected do not fail to notify both the State Chairman of Correspondence and the Corresponding Secretary of the State Federation, in order that your correspondence may not continue to burden those who have retired from active service and who, alas! too often losing all interest when no longer in office, consign it to the waste paper basket with other unimportant circulars. Prompt attention to the business of the State Federation is incumbent in order that its work can be carried on, and accurate information furnished the General Federation. In these small details both organizations are interdependent on the clubs. The work of both organizations being along the same lines, the bond can be very close and greater results accomplished.

In this Federation of forces, both State and General, the work of women can become national in its breadth and spirit. Local and superficial consideration will be subordinated to those that are far-reaching and inclusive. The question is no longer "Does it pay to belong to these splendid organizations?" It becomes an affirmative statement. We cannot afford, even from the most selfish standpoint, not to belong or to be cut off from such benefits.

But even higher than these personal motives, in no other way can a small amount of material support be converted into everlastingness. The best trust that can be formed among the women of Illinois will be the complete combination of forces through the State and General Federations, "as allies, not rivals," in the work for an enlarged womanhood; re-organization, if you please, by voluntary union which leaves the state unaffected by any change which might occur.

So that whether membership in the G. F. W. C. shall be by clubs or by states, the cardinal principles of these two great educational forces must ever be Interdependence and Fellowship.

THE RELATION OF THE STATE TO THE GENERAL FEDERATION.

Two General Considerations. I. Representation. II. Taxation.

By Mrs. Wilbur Fisk Rose, President of the New Century Club of Philadelphia.

SO much has been said and discussed apropos the re-organization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, that it might seem superfluous to add another word. But as premises and arguments often become confused and disorderly, and as conclusions of a practical kind have scarcely appeared on the horizon, the following thoughts, the bases of a plan, are offered as suggestive.

That reorganization is a pressing necessity is indisputable,

for the present system of representation and taxes, the basis of a federated body, are both equally illogical.

In the General Federation, as it is now organized, New York's state federated clubs are represented by twelve delegates, one delegate for every twenty thousand club members; and its clubs that are individually a part of the General Federation have sixty-one delegates, one for every sixty-three club members. The absurdity of such a ratio of representation is obvious.

The taxation is not only inadequate, it is unbalanced as well. In Oklahoma the number of members of individual clubs and of state federated clubs is identical, but the individual clubs have three delegates in the General Federation and pay twenty dollars annual dues; the state federated clubs have five delegates and pay two dollars and a half annually. It is therefore clear, not only that the taxation and the representation are irregular, but that the ratio of taxation to representation is equally capricious. And it must be obvious that, with such foundation, or rather lack of foundation, no permanent organization can exist.

It is now proposed to re-organize the Federation.

This will be done, let us hope, on the only bases that are strong and permanent—those of simplicity and directness.

The first step is the consideration of representatives.

At present each state has virtually, and sometimes only too truly, two classes of delegates:—those of individual clubs and those of State Federations. And in these differences of class lie three dangers for the state: an unbalanced ratio of representation; a misconceived division of interest, and from that division a fruitful possibility to any delegation of a fate like that of the Kilkenny cats. And in sober earnest, the influence of any state may only too easily become either nil or, what is worse, pernicious.

To remedy this, delegations should be—if I may be permitted an Irishism—of one division only, of which, as is just and most natural, the State President and the Federation Chairman should be members.

In this way, individual clubs are not neglected, for it is they who created and who form the State Federation from which the delegates of the General Federation are drawn. This is indeed a selection of a selection, for if we send from among our best to the State Federation, we give from among our very best to the national body.

The story of the oligarchical and tyrannical Federation which such selection would make, is indeed enough to freeze young or old blood. But we believe that the liberty of our club life can still be retained at the very usual price of common sense and foresight.

As far as may be possible, each club should be represented in each General Federation. But this plan is, of course, all too delightfully simple. For there are states whose club members would not permit such a representation. And to prevent any overweening club from eternal representation and any small or timid club from utter exclusion, each delegate should be chosen from a different club, the clubs of the state should be arranged in a logical order, and where the representation was not in one year, there it should be in another.

How can the clubs of the state be arranged in such logical order that both the clubs and the different parts of the state are equally represented?

An alphabetical order would present no safeguard against over-representation or under representation of the different sections. It would seem best to follow the principle of the House of Representatives, and to divide the state into districts. The delegate or delegates from each club district could then be chosen from the clubs of her or their district arranged in alphabetical order.

Thus, instead of being placed in an unfair, illogical juxtaposition, not to say opposition, to their State Federation—apparently another body and really their own creation—and presenting the unedifying spectacle of a house divided against itself, clubs would be equally represented through their state delegates; and in the place of a badly organized body, the delegations would be an efficient whole.

If, in this plan, I have not followed the Massachusetts outline, it is because in their provision that the General delegates shall be elected by the clubs directly I foresee complications. When the representation is such that each club has one delegate, no plan could be simpler; but this would not be the working actuality. The states would have to be divided into districts and district elections would have to be inaugurated. This means new organization. And if the work can be done as well or even better by an older organization, all the work of the new would only be unnecessary, useless. For besides the difficulty of organizing and holding a district election, it will easily be seen that, at such elections, the large clubs could out-vote the smaller clubs, and there would be no little danger that the larger clubs would be represented to the detriment or even exclusion of many of their smaller neighbors.

By the plan which I propose, this district work would be done by the State Federation alone; and by considering all clubs irrespective of the casualties of election, the result would be a representation of much greater evenness and catholicity. In due rotation every club would be represented in the General Federation.

It must now be decided of how many delegates this General Federation shall consist.

Obviously, an organization of large numbers must govern itself by the system of representation. And notwithstanding all highflown sentimentalisms and pseudo-Americanisms about unlimited, open-armed representations, we know that, to be efficient and lasting, this system must have two qualities, that of equable representation and that of practical proportion.

Any one who attended the last General Federation, whose membership was over thirteen hundred, must agree with our State President that the official body is unwieldy. They will not smile too broadly at the saying of a tried and energetic western member, that "in numbers comes at least the strength of unconquerable confusion." And when they read the Massachusetts proposition that the delegates—that is to say the official body of the General Federation—shall number a thousand, they will consent and perhaps sigh "maximum." Such a proposition is not, as some persons have fondly imagined, another oligarchical scheme. Through club membership the privileges of the meetings would naturally be open to all. And the "scheme" is simply a reductio from the near absurd, the unwieldy mass whose bulk renders it half inert, to the common sense of working numbers.

"The functions of the Federation," said a club woman, in opposing the idea of the stationary thousand, "is to bring together a large body of women."

As an official working body, larger numbers than a thousand are bulky, and we think that, in coming in generous, unlimited mass, the delegates would rather fulfill the functions of that king's army that ponderously walked up the hill and then down again, than any of the more important functions of a Federation. And this limitation simply means that the official body will be made, as Mrs. Brock has already said, "stronger and more efficient." Through club membership the privileges of the meetings would naturally be open to all. And this whole argument may be summed up in one question: Had we rather be one of a greater, unwieldy number than to watch the greater work of a thousand?

In bringing together that number the Federation does fulfill its function; and such a body, representing a hundred and fifty thousand members, is, we venture to suggest, neither inadequate nor inconsiderable. It has not half the power of national ill or welfare that the American "House" has, and that, with the Senate, has 446 members, representing over seventy millions of people.

It is also well, in indulging our theoretical sentimentalisms, to indulge in a few kindly practicalities. And in greatly increasing our delegations it must be realized that we confine our conventions to a few, a very few, great cities. For conventions must have places of meeting, and in a few years, at a logical ratio of increase, the Academy of Music in Philadelphia would be insufficiently large and we should be confined to the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, the Auditorium of Chicago, and a few kindred buildings, as yet unthought of. The entire South, much of the West, and many pleasant and progressive cities all over the United States would be deprived of the General Convention. And such a limitation, making the organization but a legend to whole sections of country, is very obviously a narrow policy.

The real problem of the thousand or of any fixed number is not, should it be; but, how, in what ratio, it should be.

It has been held that every club should be represented in every General Federation. By considering the many clubs already a part of that body—over two thousand—and a reasonable ratio of increase, it will be evident that all idea of a limitation of official numbers is ignored. And, as a principle of equable representation, this theory is thoroughly unsound—generally aggressive, it is distinctly unreasoning.

She gave assertions, not reasons.

On her principles of fairness, the vote of the Woman's Club of Wyoming, and this club has twelve members, would neutralize that of Sorosis. And the Woman's Club of Denver, the New Century Club of Philadelphia and Sorosis, with over two thousand members, would be outvoted by the four clubs of New Mexico, which altogether have only sixty-four members. Equality of representation would thus be a mockery.

To apportion the membership equally between states would be productive of equal confusion. For, not considering those as yet unfederated, where Wyoming has but twelve members, the federated members of North Dakota number not four hundred, those of Massachusetts over fourteen thousand. And the united membership of a certain fifteen of federated states is two thousand less than that of New York alone.

All these general divisions of organization are superficial and misleading—eminently conducive to that state of things known to our Revolutionary ancestors as "a miscarriage of justice."

Just representation is that by which every woman is equally represented. And this object is obtained when the number of delegates of the General Federation is apportioned equally among all club members. For the present inadequate and illogical method of taxation, a reform parallel to that of representation must take place.

It is obviously unfair, that with the same number of clubs in the general body, Oklahoma, with a roll call of two hundred, should be taxed as much as the District of Columbia, with its membership of five thousand.

Taxation per club, irrespective of the number of members, will pass away. And, as with representation, taxation must be per capita only.

This just method—just because it is so absolutely equable—is capable of raising more objections than any logical method of which I ever heard. But these objections rest on misconceptions.

The General Federation is an outcome of the individual club movement. Had the evolution been reversed and the individual clubs emerged from the parent stem, plans would have been made in the beginning for its expenses; and as in the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Suffrage Associations, both county and national, there would have been a per capita tax—the natural order of things.

As Mrs. Brock tells us, our provision for the General Federation is a reform; and I am quite sure that when it is properly understood, the objections to the per capita tax will pass away and give place to the more proper discussion of its ways and means.

For Federation and solidarity are two of the most fraternal and successful watchwords of this age, and we should work zealously for their liberal, logical organization. Everything teaches us that the battles of progress are not best gained by skirmishers and guerilloes, but by the regular army. And in its well-ordered ranks there is brilliancy, work, and spirit; and a minimum of that saddest of all things, wasted effort.

PENNSYLVANIA'S POSITION.

AT a meeting of the Executive Board of the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, in Pittsburg, on November 10th, 1899, the following resolutions were adopted:

"That the action of the State Federation in regard to the plan of reorganization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs be printed in *The Club Woman*, and that the editor of *The Club Woman* be instructed to send marked copies of the same to all clubs in the state, not subscribers of the paper, to be paid for by this Federation."

The action referred to was the adoption by the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, at its fourth annual meeting, of the following recommendations, presented to it by its Executive Board:

"1. That the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women is in favor of a reorganization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs which shall give clubs their representation in that body through their State Federations only.

"2. That we are in favor of allowing national societies to join the State Federations through their local societies and chapters.

"3. That we leave it to the Committee on Reorganization to propose a plan for the number of delegates to be allowed the organization, and their assignment to each state.

"4. That we are in favor of a per capita representation with a limit.

"5. That we are in favor of each state being assigned its number of delegates by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and having its own rules for their selection.

"6. That we are willing to pay ten cents per capita dues for the support of the State and General Federations, one-half to go to the State Federation and the other half to go to the General Federation.

"7. That we are in favor of the General Federation of Women's Clubs meeting triennially."—Jessie R. Little, Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

AFTER careful consideration the Illinois Federation sent out a circular containing the following resolution, passed at the Quincy convention:

"That the I. F. W. C. favors a reorganization of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, making it consist of State Federations, national societies and clubs of those states in which State Federations are not yet organized; that this re-

organization shall not take effect until a majority of the clubs now holding individual membership in the General Federation give their consent to it.

"How to effect this is the work of the committee on reorganization to suggest, but it is necessary for them to know whether the clubs are willing to support an organization, and what kind of an organization they want, before they can formulate any plan."

In order to facilitate the discussion of the subject, the Illinois presidents are asked to present the following questions before their clubs for immediate action:

"First. Are you in favor of a reorganization of the G. F. W. C. which shall give clubs their representation in that body through their State Federations only?

"Second. Are you in favor of allowing national societies to join the G. F. W. C. as such, or as has been proposed through their state organizations, putting them on a par with State Federations and having two delegations from a state, or are you in favor of having them join the State Federations through their local societies and chapters, as the Woman's Suffrage Society does?

"Third. Is it your wish to leave it to the committee on reorganization to propose a plan for the number of delegates to be allowed the organization and their assignment to each state? If not, what would you propose,

"Fourth. Are you in favor of a per capita representation, with a limit, as is the rule in our State Federation?

"Fifth. Shall the manner of choosing the delegates in each state be provided for in the by-laws of the G. F. W. C., or shall each state be assigned its number of delegates by the G. F. W. C. and have its own rules for their selection? If the former, are you in favor of the plan proposed by the Massachusetts Federation? (The articles in the Massachusetts plan for reorganization on representation are then presented.)

"Sixth. Are you willing to pay ten cents per capita dues for the support of the State and General Federations? If not, how would you propose to raise the money necessary to conduct these organizations?

"Seventh. Do you think it too often for the G. F. W. C. to meet biennially? It has been suggested that sectional Federations meet every year, State Federations every other year, and the General Federation every three or four years.

"Eighth. If you approve of a biennial meeting of the G. F. W. C., are you in favor of making the officers' terms of office four years and electing half the executive board biennially? Our state has found it very pleasant to have meetings without elections."

The circular is signed by Mrs. Eugenia M. Bacon, chairman of state correspondence G. F. W. C. for Illinois, and Mrs. Clara M. J. Farson, president I. F. W. C. committee on reorganization.

ANOTHER VIEW.

By Mrs. Mattie Beckwith Lowrie, President of the City Federation of Elgin, Illinois.

WHY should the General Federation of Women's Clubs be composed of State Federations when it is supported in the main by the individual clubs?

The single club pays, and pays cheerfully, for direct representation, and is entitled to the same according to the law of justice established at the noted "Tea Party" of our ancestors.

Why should presidents of the individual clubs cease to be vice-presidents of the General Federation? No member of

these clubs is more thoroughly wide awake to the best interests of club women than these officials. This rule gives dignity to the individual clubs and also to the G. F. W. C. by sending representative women to the Biennial meetings. Why should the arduous duties of the state president be increased by the additional burden of caring for the affairs of the individual clubs? The women who belong to these organizations are on the ground and know the needs of their clubs better than any state official can possibly.

Why should the single club pay its tax for the support of the G. F. W. C. to some state official who must retain one-half for the state expenses and forward the remaining half to the General Federation treasurer? The Governor of each state might with equal propriety receive or appoint some one to receive the entire amount of the people's tax for the state government and for the national expense incurred by our government at Washington. He might also desire that in addition to his state duties he be made a member of President McKinley's cabinet.

The state president should have charge of the work of the state, but not of the individual clubs. It is better to distribute the responsibility than to have it centralized at any one point. This fact comes under the rule, the greatest good to the greatest number.

If the state needs more money with which to carry on its work, enlarge the dues or tax. If ten cents per capita yields too great a sum for the needs of the G. F. W. C. make it five cents. Ought the minimum amount to be less than \$5.00 for any club to belong to the General Federation?

Last year the individual clubs of Illinois were urged to make an appeal to their state senators in the interests of an educational bill before this honorable body for the establishment of schools in large cities for dependent children. The result was satisfactory, as the bill became a law.

According to the table of statistics given in the January issue of *The Club Woman* the number of clubs belonging to the G. F. W. C. is a little more than seven hundred. It will be impossible for each club to send two delegates to any meeting of the General Federation. There is not the least doubt but that Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe will be able to control the entire delegation which may attend the Milwaukee Biennial.

Three cents per capita is too small an amount to pay for membership in this magnificent body of women. The small club may join for a paltry sum. The national societies may pay a per capita tax, but many of them cannot divert their funds for outside work or purposes.

A WORD FROM NEBRASKA.

By Louisa Lowe Ricketts.

IN looking over the plan for reorganization drawn by the Massachusetts committee—which is also recommended by chairman of the reorganization committee—we are glad to see that it is a great modification of the suggestions contained in the first resolutions prepared by the Worcester Club of Massachusetts and presented to the Council last June. While much of the latter plan is open to serious criticism, we nowhere find in it the assertion that the Biennials have become "unwieldy and burdensome." To the contrary this committee suggests a plan which it claims will provide for "indefinite expansion." Equally contradictory are many other suggestions contained in the new plan. In Art. I (a) it is provided that the General Federation shall consist solely of State Federations, etc., while Art. II (a) provides that all clubs in the state shall hold direct membership in the State Federa-

tion, and that shall include membership in the General Federation. The chairman of this committee has designated the present condition of affairs as "a muddle"—certainly to attempt to carry out the provisions in Articles I and II of this plan would result in nothing more satisfactory than an excessive "muddle." We turn to Article III—on "finances"—to see if it is equally lucid. Here we find the most vulnerable point in the whole plan. It takes for granted that if this system is adopted, the 635 large and small clubs that will be directly cut off from the privileges of the Biennials, as well as the 1599 clubs belonging to the State Federations, but which have never sought or expressed any desire to belong to the General Federation; also the 82 clubs belonging to the State Federations which have never affiliated with the General, will all fall into line as subservient revenue contributors to a general organization, in which only the privileged few can ever hope to have a seat, or a voice in its councils. If this plan should prevail all these clubs can be voted in and taxed without consent, which reminds one of the adage, "You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink." In other words, the beautiful, logical organization, from club to State Federation on to General Federation, of which we have heard so much lately, is based upon false premises, and necessarily the logical sequence must be a failure. For instance, in my home state—Nebraska—there are 70 clubs affiliated with the State Federation; only ten of these are connected with the General Federation. The logical plan takes for granted that the 60 clubs which have never expressed any desire to become members of the general organization, by the wave of the reorganization wand will become logical, loyal, taxable members of the General Federation. In this connection we must not lose sight of the fact that the State and General Federations are directly dependent upon individual clubs for their strength and support; and a "dignified, logical" relation cannot obtain without the consent and co-operation of these very clubs that are to be cut off from direct connection with the Biennial gatherings.

Taxation for a membership in the General Federation which is not desired; also "taxation without representation," would bring about a condition of affairs that has always been a sensitive point with Americans. It is everywhere in evidence that the daughters of the last half of the nineteenth century have inherited a goodly proportion of the spirit of their forefathers, and would not kindly accept such a situation.

The provision for representation in the proposed plan, while seemingly fair and just, must work a great injustice. For instance, New York would be entitled to as many delegates in the Biennial meetings as Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Kansas, Connecticut, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Washington, Georgia, Delaware, Rhode Island, Vermont, Utah, Florida and North Dakota combined, Massachusetts following with a delegation nearly as large as New York's. Several states would have only three delegates as opposed to one hundred and seventy-three for New York. A national convention based upon that mode of representation can never be democratic, and would eventually work the extinguishment of the smaller Federations and clubs.

Another phase to be carefully considered of this many-sided question is the loss of these clubs and Federations. I believe it conservative to estimate a loss of at least half of the clubs, from the various circumstances that will be involved. This would necessitate heavier taxes for those remaining, and in many of the states, which are now only partly paying the necessary expenses of their own state officers, this might become so great a hardship that the State Federations themselves might be compelled, from self-preservation, to withdraw from the General Federation. So many forces will be set in motion

should the suggested plan for reorganization carry that it behooves those having this work at heart to go slow. If some little adjustment is needed, make it, but no radical change at one time.

The whole proposition came like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky to the large majority of club women. Would it not have been in better taste if the Worcester Club had waited for the General Federation to have discovered through its executive board (which is personally as bright and far-seeing as this club, and in a better position to know of the workings of the organization) that it was "burdensome and unwieldy"? Much is to be apprehended from the results of this proposed change. Cut off all representation except through State Federation and you cut off support, sympathy, interest and activity. Remove these from any organization and you remove the life-giving principles. Fear of disintegration scarcely deserves space for answer. If the Denver Biennial was an evidence of disintegration, let disintegration continue. Fears of unwieldiness can be positively allayed by a study of the plans upon which the National Educational Association is based. With a membership of 15,000 it has never complained of being unwieldy, of lack of places to meet or of financial embarrassment. Better "expand" to the extent that 10,000 women can go to the Biennial in 1902 than cut off ten who crave its privileges and seek its opportunities.

WOMEN'S CLUBHOUSES.

Several fine clubhouses for women will be built the coming season. In Boston, where we have been talking about one for so long, we are to see our dreams materialize, and a beautiful four story building will soon grace Beacon Street, near the State House. This structure will have accommodations for club and committee meetings and will be equipped with everything the various clubs can desire; for this will differ from all other clubhouses in that it is meant to accommodate all the clubs in the city if they so desire. Only one, The New England Woman's Club, has yet engaged permanent rooms, but there is no doubt that as soon as the new building is finished all the clubs will make it their headquarters in one way or another. The funds are raised by a stock-company and shares are \$50 apiece. Mrs. Isabella Potter is the president, and to her untiring energy and sublime faith in the project, Boston women will owe, more than to any other person or thing, their clubhouse—which will cost \$75,000 above the land.

In Los Angeles, too, they are just finishing a clubhouse under the auspices of the Friday Morning Club, which will cost about \$15,000. While others have worked hard in the undertaking, to the president of the Friday Morning Club is due the credit of originating and carrying forward the clubhouse project. The idea was suggested in the annual address of the president two years ago, and the plan outlined there met with instant and general endorsement from the members. Mrs. Charlotte Wills subscribed for the first shares of stock. The sale of stock met with the most generous response from the women who were not responsible to any one for their expenses. January 8, 1897, the association was incorporated and officers elected. Owing to the war with Spain and other obstacles it was not until June last that the lot was purchased and the building begun. Many plans were offered and a satisfactory one finally adopted. The club house will be built of cement, in the modernized mission style of architecture, on a lot with 100 feet frontage. The auditorium in the rear end will have a seating capacity of about 500. A spacious hall containing a wide staircase, leads from the front to the rear, with a reception room, directors' and secretary's rooms, dressing room and smaller club room on the north side.

PARLIAMENTARY USAGE.

Mrs. Emma A. Fox.

XII.

(Errata. In Article XI, second column, consider the four horizontal lines in the roll of members as drawn through four of the names.

Before the last paragraph of the article insert: A plurality vote is the greatest of three or more numbers representing the respective votes cast for any person or measure, and may or may not be a majority of the whole.)

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

ONE cannot pursue the study of parliamentary law very far without observing that there is no complete set of rules equally binding on all assemblies.

Every organized society should have clearly defined rules, but to know the amount of authority which any organization has in the making of rules, an understanding of the different kinds of assemblies is necessary.

All assemblies may be considered as either legal or voluntary. Legal assemblies are those which are made compulsory by law. The legislative bodies of the nation, state, county, township and municipality are examples of legal assemblies.

Assemblies which are not made compulsory by law, such as literary, musical and charitable societies, are voluntary.

Voluntary assemblies may be divided into two classes, those which are incorporated and therefore have a legal existence, and those which are not incorporated and therefore have no legal existence.

Women's clubs are voluntary organizations, and probably only a small proportion of them are incorporated.

An unincorporated club is a law unto itself and is not limited in any way as to the rules it may make. For the sake of stability a constitution and by-laws should be adopted as early as practicable after organization has been agreed upon.

The advantage of having both constitution and by-laws, and the only advantage, is for the sake of having only what is fundamental in the constitution, and making that difficult to amend, and of putting into the by-laws those details which may be changed without affecting the general character or work of the society.

Societies must not expect to adopt constitution and by-laws which will serve a number of years without change. It is impossible at time of organization to know just what will be needed, and as knowledge is gained by experience, amendments should be made.

The following constitution and by-laws are recommended to unincorporated clubs, not as being ideal, but as a model or foundation which may be adapted to the requirements of many clubs:

CONSTITUTION.

Article I. Name.

The name of this association shall be the Lakeville Woman's Club.

Article II. Object.

The object of this club shall be united effort toward peace, charity, equity and a higher civilization.

Article III. Membership.

Any person interested in the object of this club may become a member upon the conditions prescribed in the by-laws.

Article IV. Officers.

Section 1. The officers of this club shall be a president, a first and a second vice-president, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, a treasurer, an auditor and a custodian.

Sec. 2. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual

meeting, and continue in office one year, or until their successors are elected.

Sec. 3. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election.

Sec. 4. No member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

Sec. 5. Vacancies in office may be filled at any regular meeting in the same manner as at the annual meeting.

Article V. Meetings.

Sec. 1. The annual meeting shall be held the third Thursday in January of each year.

Sec. 2. Regular meetings shall be held from the first week of October to the first week of May, inclusive.

Sec. 3. Special meetings may be called by the president or any three members; but no business shall be transacted except that for which the meeting was called, and which shall be stated in the call.

Article VI. Quorum.

Sec. 1. One-third of the active membership of the club shall constitute a quorum at any regular or annual meeting, but at no time shall the lack of a quorum at a regular meeting prevent those present from proceeding with the program of the day.

Sec. 2. A majority of the membership of the club shall be necessary for a quorum at a special meeting.

Article VII. Amendments.

Sec. 1. This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of all active members present, the proposed amendments having been submitted in writing at a previous regular meeting.

Sec. 2. Amendments may also be made at any annual meeting without previous notice, by the unanimous vote of all members present.

Sec. 3. By-laws may be adopted, amended, suspended or repealed at any regular or annual meeting by a two-thirds vote.

BY-LAWS.

Article I. Membership.

Sec. 1. Membership in this club shall be of three classes, active, associate and honorary.

Sec. 2. A candidate for active or associate membership must sign the following form of application:

"I desire to become an active (or associate, as the case may be) member of the Lakeville Woman's Club, and having carefully read its constitution and by-laws, hereby promise, if admitted to membership, to endeavor to further the object for which the club is formed.

Sec. 3. Applications shall be read to the club and then lie on the table at least one week before being voted upon.

Sec. 4. Elections shall be by ballot, and two negative votes shall exclude from membership.

Sec. 5. Names of rejected candidates can not be presented again within one year.

Sec. 6. Active members shall consider themselves in honor bound, as far as possible, to study the subjects under consideration by the club, and to perform literary or committee work assigned them.

Sec. 7. Associate members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the club except those of voting and holding office, but shall have no responsibility in regard to the work of the club.

Sec. 8. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any non-resident person by unanimous vote of those present at any annual meeting. Names of persons upon whom honorary membership is conferred may be enrolled for life upon the list of honorary members of the club when they have accepted in

writing their acceptance of such membership.

Article II. Dues.

Sec. 1. The annual dues for active members shall be one dollar and those of associate members two dollars.

Sec. 2. Members failing to pay dues before the first of November shall be at once notified by the treasurer, and those not paying before the first of January shall forfeit all rights to membership and their names be taken from the roll.

Sec. 3. Dues for the current fiscal year must accompany all applications for membership.

Article III. Officers.

Sec. 1. The regular term of office of all officers shall commence at the adjournment of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Sec. 2. The duties of officers shall be such as are implied by their respective titles, and such as are specified in these by-laws.

Sec. 3. The president shall appoint all standing committees and be ex officio a member of the same without the right to vote.

Sec. 4. The recording secretary shall receive and present all applications for membership, and shall keep an accurate classified list of the membership of the club.

Sec. 5. The corresponding secretary shall notify applicants for membership of the result of the election; also notify all officers of their election and committees of their appointment, and in general conduct the correspondence of the club.

Sec. 6. The treasurer shall keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements and present a complete statement the first meeting in each month of the transactions of the preceding month. The treasurer shall pay bills only upon order of the club, and shall notify delinquent members as required in Article II, Section 3, of these by-laws, and on the first day of January of each year send to the recording secretary the names to be taken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues. The annual report of the treasurer shall be submitted to the auditor at least one week before the annual meeting.

Sec. 7. The auditor shall examine the books of the treasurer, also the annual report of the treasurer.

Sec. 8. The custodian shall have charge of all properties of the club except such as are in actual use, subject to the direction of the club.

Sec. 9. The recording secretary, corresponding secretary, treasurer, auditor and custodian shall each make a written report at the annual meeting.

Sec. 10. All officers upon retiring from office shall deliver to their successors all money, accounts, record books, papers or other property belonging to the club.

Article IV. Committees.

Sec. 1. There shall be three standing committees, consisting of three members each: Membership, Program and House.

Sec. 2. The Membership Committee shall investigate the qualifications of applicants for membership and report the same to the club.

Sec. 3. The Program Committee shall recommend subjects of study at the first meeting in April for the year beginning the following October. When the general plan of work has been decided, this committee shall prepare a calendar for the literary work of the year and complete all necessary arrangements for carrying out the same.

Sec. 4. The House Committee shall recommend a place of meeting and shall have general charge of the room or rooms agreed upon and the club furnishings of the same.

Article V. Meetings.

Sec. 1. Regular meetings of the club shall be held on

Thursday, at three in the afternoon.

Sec. 2. The order of exercises shall be:

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Appointment of critic.
4. Reading of minutes.
5. Special order.
6. Communications from the president.
7. Reports of officers.
8. Reports of standing committees.
 - a. Membership.
 - b. Program.
 - c. House.
9. Reports of special committees.
10. Election of members.
11. Unfinished business.
12. Miscellaneous business.
13. Report of critic for previous meeting.
14. Program for the day.
15. Adjournment.

Sec. 3. The order of exercises for the annual meeting shall be:

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Annual report of officers.
 - a. Recording secretary.
 - b. Corresponding secretary.
 - c. Treasurer.
 - d. Auditor.
 - e. Custodian.
4. Address of president.
5. Miscellaneous business.
6. Election of officers.
7. Adjournment.

Article VI.

The general subject of study and plan of work shall be decided by vote of the club.

Article VII.

The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Article VIII.

The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in _____ by _____ shall govern the proceedings of this club, subject to the special rules which have been or may be adopted.

If a club desires a Board of Managers, the number of officers provided for in Article IV, Section 1, of the constitution may be increased by one or more directors. The sentence, "These officers shall constitute a Board of Managers, may then be added to the same section, and an article defining the duties of the board be inserted as article IV. of the by-laws.

A club may become incorporated by adopting articles of association in compliance with the conditions of a state law which makes provision for the incorporation of such a society. The laws of the various states differ so greatly that it would be futile to attempt to explain the manner of becoming incorporated. The process is very simple, but the services of a lawyer are generally required, at least to the extent of finding the one or more laws under which incorporation is possible.

The articles of association generally, though not always, render a constitution unnecessary, so that incorporated clubs usually have only by-laws in addition to the articles of association.

Articles of association may be changed and by-laws may be adopted or amended only in the manner provided by the state law. Anything done in conflict with statutory requirement is null and void.

Such restraint has ample compensation aside from the power of holding property, in that it gives club members a little practical business experience.

Every member of an incorporated club should be familiar with the incorporating statute, and for this reason it is desirable to have the statute printed in pamphlet form, together with the articles of association and by-laws.

OPEN PARLIAMENT.

(Questions for this department should be sent to Mrs. E. A. Fox, 21 Bagley avenue, Detroit.)

Is it correct parliamentary practice to put a motion in the negative, as "I move that her resignation be not accepted?"

It is certainly not the best practice. A better motion to accomplish what is evidently intended is that the resignation be laid upon the table.

If notice is required of an amendment to a by-law, and such notice has been given, can the same by-law be still further amended?

The proposed amendment can be amended, providing the second amendment is germane to the first.

CLUB STUDY DEPARTMENT.

(Conducted by Mrs. May Alden Ward.)

OUTLINE STUDY FOR LIFE AND WORKS OF "GEORGE ELIOT."

- A. The Modern Novel.
 - I. Novel and Romance.
 - II. Mission of the Modern Novel.
 - III. Relation of the Modern Novel to Its Era.
 - IV. Relation of the Novel to the Drama.
 - V. Three Masters of Modern English Fiction.
 1. Their names.
 2. Their different interpretations of social life.
- B. The Victorian Age.
 - I. Its Character.
 - II. Its Representative Writers.
- C. George Eliot.
 - I. Her Name by Birth; by Choice; by Marriage.
 - II. Significant Dates in Her Career.
 - III. Places Associated with George Eliot.
 1. Warwickshire.
 2. London.
 3. Nuneaton.
 4. Foleshill.
 5. Cheyne Walk.
 6. The Priory.
 - IV. Early Life.
 1. Parentage.
 2. Childhood.
 3. Education.
 - V. Personal Characteristics.
 - VI. Intellectual Ability.
 1. Chief peculiarity of.
 2. Her only equal among woman writers.
 - VII. Religious Belief.
 1. Religion in Early Life.
 2. Change in belief.
 3. Causes of change.
 - a. Critical period in England.
 - b. Development of philosophic and scientific ideas.
 - c. Influence of Spencer and Lewes.
 4. Effect on her work.

VIII. Turning Point in Her Career.

1. Union with George Henry Lewes.
 - a. Reason for step.
 - b. Effect on her work.
 - c. The Sunday salon.

IX. Classification of Literary Productions.

1. Translations.
2. Sketches and essays.
3. Poems.
4. Novels.

X. Critical Writings Concerning George Eliot.

1. Best Complete Biography.
2. Miscellaneous Biographies.
 - a. Life of George Eliot.....Cooke.
 - b. Life of George Eliot.....James.
 - c. George EliotMyers.
3. Miscellaneous Essays on George Eliot and Her Works.
 - Essays in Literary Criticism.....Hutton
 - George Eliot and Her Heroines
Woolson.
 - Century Magazine, February, 1882.
 - Atlantic, Feb., 1883; May, 1859; Oct.,
1859; Dec., 1878.
 - North American Review, April, 1873;
Jan., 1877.

XI. Great Writers With Whom George Eliot Has Been Compared.

XII. Discussion of Her Novels.

1. Romola.
 - a. Place in literature.
 - b. Its artistic aim.
2. Middlemarch.
 - a. A study of failure.
 - b. Its great defect.
3. Mill on the Floss.
 - a. To what extent autobiographical?
4. Theophrastus Such.
 - a. Class of literature.
 - b. Significance of title.
5. Ada Bede.
 - a. Its place in author's literary career.
 - b. Its moral.
 - c. Resemblance to one of Scott's novels.
6. Underlying theme of all George Eliot's Novels.
7. Standard of ethics revealed by these novels.
8. Failure of later novels.
9. Cause of sombre tone of novels.

XIII. Characters of Novels.

1. Names of heroines.
2. From heroines we can formulate author's own theory of life.
3. Children of the novels.
4. Prototypes of certain characters.
5. Characterizations.
6. Dorothea and Marcella.

XIV. Literary Style.

1. Excellence of work.
2. Foremost excellence.
3. Story-telling gift.
4. Her limitations.

Maud Elma Kingsley, A. M., East Machias, Maine.

We are happy to note that all the leading and most progressive Club Women of the country are now on our subscription list. Are you?

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

Conducted by Mrs. Viola Price Franklin of Wisconsin University.

In a convocation address, President Harper of the University of Chicago once urged the establishment of a department of art. After stating that the university had not yet recognized the aesthetic side of educational work, he added: "No objection could have been made to this policy fifty years ago, but in these modern days, when in every stage of educational progress the aesthetic plays so important a part, to ignore it in the college is to blind ourselves and those whom we are guiding."

Our best educators are thus beginning to realize what an important factor aesthetics is in life and education. Josephine Locke, who has done more than any other modern teacher to rob school rooms of their gloom, in a very able address, before the Pedagogical Club of the above mentioned university, set forth the function of aesthetics. She urged that the age was in greater need of warmth for the heart than of light for the intellect, and stated that only art could supply this need. Since aesthetics expressed the harmony at the centre of life, it should have a place at the centre of the educational system. She further said: "The art instinct exists in every individual, but though we all have felt its power, we have not known what to do with it. It slumbers in the love of sunshine, of sea and mountain, and in the enjoyment of rhyme and jingle that characterizes the healthy child. But the art instinct must find expression if it is to perform its service to the world. A democratic education must centre around a democratic art. The West is not in the trammels of tradition. Why should it not be independent in art standards and art methods? Through art the tadpole becomes the frog, and creation completes itself. The hunger for romance and sentiment is only satisfied in art. Art claims a place for itself. It is a ready servant to other ends, and to other studies in the school curriculum, but not thus can its message be realized. Art is the culmination of life, and as such it is not accessory, but central and constructive. Until this is recognized, it will not yield its highest value."

That the mothers, too, are awakening to the beneficent value of art in education is manifest in the interest taken by the women's clubs in putting pictures into the school rooms. It has well been said that "the mother was the first artist. Her lullaby was the beginning of music and poetry. Her efforts to please the eye and busy the hand of her child paved the way for painting and sculpture." Who can estimate the value of this study of beautiful pictures? Heretofore the child, weary with the monotonous hum of the school room, could find no rest for its tired eyes on the glaring white walls. Now these have been transformed into beautiful tinted backgrounds, whereon repose Madonnas and angel faces, whose serene smiles and glorified countenances stimulate the children by creating for them a world of beauty and enjoyment.

And if some pessimistic Philistine, with a practical turn of mind, rises in his might to say that Venus has long since departed, and Apollo is dead, out of the mouths of these youthful art lovers will be answered. They will declare that for them Aurora with all her rosy train greets them each dawn, and that Iris still beckons them, and Aphrodite smiles from "silvery depths and blue."

Throw open wide the doors to immortal beauty and let the student walk in. Encourage him to cultivate the art of artistic appreciation. Let him abide in reverence until the artist within springs to meet the artist without, and he is ready to say:

"I have not chanted verse like Homer, no—

Nor swept string like Terpander, no—nor carved

And painted men like Phidias and his friend;
I am not great as they were, point by point,
But I have entered into sympathy
With these four, running into one soul,
Who separate ignored each other's arts.
Say, is it nothing that I know them all?"

Verily, "Art is the utterance of all that life contains," and those who guide the children through its portals should realize its all-comprehensiveness and power. Take for illustration the work of Millet. Let the teacher show a series of photographs representing his painting, and give a talk upon the artist and the meaning of his work. No better exponent of democracy in art could be found. Millet crowned the common man with the laurels formerly reserved for heroes and saints. His soul was thrilled by the pathos of peasant life, and its painful toil. An overpowering sense of weariness is discernible in nearly all of his peasants. He had chosen a new theme and dignified it with artistic power. "Man shall earn his bread by the sweat of his brow." This speaks out most forcibly in his wonderful creation, "The Sower." The warm shadows of the evening are enshrouding the Sower, thus giving the suggestion that the peasant must work late; the overpowering sense of toil is indicated by the sweat on his brow, and the hat pulled down over the face. Here is also perceptible the Greek effect in Millet's art, in the stern seriousness, the indifference to unrelenting fate manifest in the deep-browed eyes. Yet spirit conquers flesh, for his strong feet with kindly strides move onward unyieldingly, and the swinging arm wearies not in its ceaseless curves. Thus the artist gives us this victory in the battle for bare existence, as typical of thousands of burden bearers the world over. Human life was of the greatest interest to Millet, and his genius made the poor peasants mean more than "mere work ridden folk."

He saw them thus: "I see very well the aureole of the dandelions, and the sun also, far down there behind the hills, flinging his glory upon the clouds. But not alone that; I see in the plains the smoke of the tired horses at the plough, or, on a stony-hearted spot of ground, a back-broken man, trying to raise himself upright for a moment to breathe. The tragedy is surrounded by glories; that is no invention of mine."

And it is the many "back-broken" women, too, crowding his pictures, who thrill us with the pathos of their suffering, and make us cry out against such a cruel civilization that permits these things to exist. Let us ask of these artists where they are leading us, and then open our hearts and follow. Surely sympathetic chords will vibrate as our souls respond to their appeals.

This is an inexhaustible subject, but I must close with this message, which I once heard the scholarly Prince Serge Wolcowsky give: "Responsiveness to beauty is the gate through which we enter those superior regions where the tempests of earthly passions lose their power, where political or national distinctions fade away, and where, in the serene neutrality of science and art, a cultivated mind finds its eternal, unalterable fatherland. In our day * * * lovers of art must raise their standards; stepping over all frontiers, they must raise their voices to the glory of all that is beautiful wherever and whenever it appears; for 'beauty,' says the Russian philosopher, 'is the best part of our real world, the one which not only exists but is worthy of existence.'"

The following women's clubs have arranged for the delivery of courses of extension lecture-studies to their members by lecturers from the Extension Division of the University of Chicago:

Waukegan (Ill.) Woman's Club, "Prophets of Modern Literature," by Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

Bloomington (Ill.) Woman's Club, "The Tragedies of Shakespeare," by Prof. Richard G. Moulton.

Chicago Chapter, D. A. R., "Men Who Made the Nation," by Prof. Edwin E. Sparks.

Riverside (Ill.) Woman's Club, "The Native Races of North America," by Prof. Frederick Starr.

Milwaukee Col. End. Assoc., "Interpretative Readings from Browning," by Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

Milwaukee Col. End. Assoc., "Art and Life," Prof. Charles Zueblin.

Milwaukee Col. End. Assoc., "The Beginnings of Christianity," by Prof. Herbert L. Willett.

The above courses consist of six lecture studies each, and in most instances are delivered at fortnightly intervals.

Among others, the following clubs are pursuing courses of study arranged by the Extension Division of the University of Chicago:

Belles Lettres Club, Pendleton, Oregon, "American Literature."

20th Century Club, Nashville, Tenn., "French History and Literature."

The Young Woman's Club, Terra Haute, Ind., "Prophets of Modern Literature."

XLI Club, Gainesville, Texas, "American Literature."

The Study Club, Selma, Alabama, "History and Literature of England Under the Georges."

The Mathesis Club, Valpariso, Ind., "The Development of English Literature."

Fortnightly Club, Helena, Montana, "Browning."

The Arundell Club, Baltimore, Md., "The Comedies of Shakespeare."

The Students' Club, Morris, Minnesota, "France in the 19th Century."

The Aglaia, Ogden, Utah, "Representative Writers of the 19th Century."

Wednesday Club, Economic Section, St. Louis, Mo., "Municipal Problems."

"Mrs. May Wright Sewell says, 'When women have worked in one club long enough to know each other's resources and the end of one another's resources as well, nothing can be more helpful than to visit another club; or, better still, for representatives of a number of clubs to meet for a visit about club matters.'"

It is singular that a literary or philanthropic uplift such as club life gives, should help us over the homely duties of every day and give us stronger tomorrows, but it does.—Mrs. Apperson, President Nebraska Federation.

THE SECRET OF IT.

WHERE does the clerk of the weather store
The days that are sunny and fair?"
"In your soul is a room with a shining door,
And all of those days are there."
"Where does the clerk of the weather keep
The days that are dreary and blue?"
"In a second room of your soul they sleep,
And you have the keys of the two."
"And why are my days so often, I pray,
Filled full of clouds and of gloom?"
"Because you forget at the break of day,
And open the dreary room."

—Amos R. Wells, in January St. Nicholas.

BOOKS.

IN that excellent series of novels, Appleton's Town and Country Library, there are four new volumes. It has been said of this library that more good novels have appeared there than in any series that has ever been published. Number 273 is "The Heiress of the Season," by Sir William Magnay. It is a fascinating tale of English life in London and in country houses. The people are all agreeable and say bright and sparkling things. They talk in epigrams and the incidents move with electric smoothness, so that the book offers pleasant reading in a quiet library corner on a stormy day. Number 274 is one of W. Clark Russell's inimitable sea stories, "A Voyage at Anchor," different from his other tales and yet told with all the fascinating diction of this popular author's well-known style. The next in the series is "The Idol of the Blind," by Tom Gallon, whose name is now familiar to those who have followed this library for a year or two back. This is a beautiful story, told with a pathos and a sincerity that goes straight to the heart. "A Corner of the West" is written by Edith Henrietta Fowler, a sister of the woman who wrote "Isabel Carnaby." It is a tale of social life in Devonshire and London, simply natural in incidents and situations, keen in individualization of characters, and tenderly, sympathetically human in feeling. Like her sister's books, Miss Fowler's conversational qualities in story writing are delicious. The tale is well conceived and the "plot" is an interesting one; but it is the style in which it is revealed that makes this book a fit companion to that most brilliant book of the year, "Isabel Carnaby." (New York, D. Appleton & Co.)

"A Name to Conjure With" is by John Strange Winter, and to many people no more need be said to induce them to go straightway and buy it. It is a strong temperance story and teaches a valuable lesson in a pleasant way. Mary Lessingham, the heroine, is a writer who becomes famous, after long struggles, and publishes novels which make her famous. She cannot write, however, without the aid of a strong stimulant, and her secret struggles against this habit, the final discovery by her husband of her slavery to chartreuse, and the way he bears the knowledge and helps her to overcome, make up a powerful story which is as profitable as a sermon. (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

"On Account of Sarah," by Eyre Hussey, is another pleasant story of English life, with plenty of incident, many characters and a great deal of "dash" and spirit. A long series of things happened "on account of Sarah," and some complications ensued; but they all come out well at the end and everybody has reason to bless Sarah and each other. It is a charming book for young people. (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co.)

"The Island," by Richard Whiteing, whose "No. 5 John Street" made a sensation last spring, is the story of a young Englishman of noble birth, who is cast away on Pitcairn Island, among the mixed descendants of the mutineers of the British ship Bounty and the South Pacific islanders. The community is ideal in character, and the story is really a satire, the European civilization which the hero eulogizes and his hearers admire being essentially inferior to that which prevails upon this isolated island. The heroine, Victoria, is a woman of a noble type, closely allied in nature with Tilda, the Amazonian flower-girl of the later romance. "The Island" was highly praised when it first appeared, ten years ago, and many readers prefer it to "No. 5 John Street." In style it is no less brilliant. Two entirely new chapters have been inserted, and the text revised throughout.

No one who is interested in social conditions should miss this book. (New York, The Century Co.)

"The Circle of a Century" is one of Mrs. Burton Harrison's recent books, and is a story of early New York, treating of the festivities in progress that marked the inauguration of President Washington and the establishment of constitutional government. The hero is a soldier and the scion of an old and honored colonial family; while the heroine is the daughter of an immigrant Scotch-Irish mechanic. The opportunities for use of the materials afforded by that picturesque period are skilfully employed. The second part deals with the present age of plutocracy, its hero being the rich and cultivated descendant of the heroine of the earlier tale. When we have said the book is written with all the charm of this writer no further praise is needed. (New York, The Century Co.)

"The Anglo Maniacs," by Mrs. Harrison also, will be remembered as having first appeared as a serial in the Century Magazine. It is claimed that no book from the pen of this popular author ever attracted more attention than this international romance, and the social conditions that made its appearance so timely are still prevalent and potent. In this edition the illustrations by Charles Dana Gibson are added and help to make a most delightful book. (New York, The Century Co.)

"San Isidro" is a Cuban novel by Mrs. Schuyler Crowninshield and full of passionate, fierce sentiment, of love and of cruelty, as one might expect of the Spanish West Indies. There is a delicate and lovely Agueda, capable of the truest love and yet doomed to self-sacrifice for a tyrannical coquette who steals her lover from her. The story is pretty, well told and full of local color. It is intensely dramatic and rich in coloring, and it gives a good idea of life in the West Indies. (Chicago, Herbert Stone & Co.)

"Salads, Sandwiches and Chafing Dish Dainties" has a sound particularly attractive to clubs, and club women will be attracted to the book that bears that title when they know it is written by Janet McKenzie Hill, editor of the Boston Cooking School Magazine. Every woman nowadays likes to be considered an adept in the art of tossing up an appetizing salad or in stirring a creamy rarebit. The author has aimed to make it the most practical and reliable treatise on these fascinating branches of the culinary art that has yet been published. Due attention has been given to the a b c of the subjects, and great care exercised to meet the actual needs of those who wish to cultivate a taste for palatable and wholesome dishes, or to cater to the vagaries of the most capricious appetites. (Boston, Little, Brown & Co.)

A set of books to be commended to clubs studying literature is the "Cambridge Literature Series," which furnishes a list of books handy to use and annotated for use by secondary schools or literature classes. The books are very carefully written with a view to having the text carefully edited and supplied with copious notes and introductions; they are uniform in attractive binding and convenient size and at low prices. (Prices in paper run from 12 to 24 cents each; in cloth from 25 to 40 cents.) The books already issued are Addison's "Sir Roger de Coverley Papers," Burke's "Conciliation," Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner," Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," Longfellow's "Evangeline," Lowell's "Vision of Sir Launfal," Macaulay's Essays on Milton and Addison, Milton's *L'Allegro*, *Il Penseroso*, *Comus* and *Lycidas*, Pope's *Iliad* (Books I, VI, XII and XXIV), Tennyson's "Princess" and Shakespeare's "Merchant

of Venice." It is a very desirable series to own, either as club or family reading. (Boston, Benjamin H. Sanborn & Co.)

"Esther Waters" first came out several years ago. It met with signal success even in an unauthorized edition; and so the author, George Moore, has revised and enlarged the story, a powerful one at first, and it has recently been published in the good style it deserves. Esther Waters was only a kitchen maid who married, long after she should have done so, the coachman; but the story is told with a dramatic intensity and a directness of description that give it the force and power of one of Kipling's books. Not that it is in any sense like Kipling, or an imitation of his work, but "Esther Waters" has a distinct and rugged strength all its own. It is worth reading for that reason and as an exponent of the best modern literature. (Chicago, Herbert S. Stone & Co.)

"Was It Right to Forgive?" is another proof that whatever Amelia Barr writes is sure to be popular. Like many of her stories, the characters are Dutch settlers or their descendants in New York. It is a story of woman's love,—the kind that holds out against untruth and disloyalty and forgives over and over again because it is the divinest kind of love. The lesson of forgiveness is indirectly taught by means of this fascinating love story. (Chicago, Herbert S. Stone & Co.)

"A Local Habitation" is by a new author, Walter Leon Sawyer, one of the editors of the Youth's Companion. It is decidedly local in character, dealing with lodging house life in that district of the Philistines known as the "South End" of Boston. As a study of social conditions it is more or less true to life, and some of our best critics consider the book wonderfully clever. It is not a pleasant book, however, and what is worse, it leaves a bad taste in the mouth. The man or woman of mature years who cares to study new social phases will find the book intensely interesting, but it is not to be commended for young people. The style is crisp, even epigrammatic in spots, and the book is an earnest of better work in the future. (Boston, Small, Maynard & Co.)

"Differences" is decidedly different. This, too, is a study of social conditions, the scene being laid in Chicago; but it is cleaner and in some sense more agreeable. The types are more easily recognizable and the book more readable for women, since it deals with settlement house life and work. The author, Hervey White, evidently knows what he is writing about. The story shows the under side of life with all its sordid cares, its cheap meannesses and its lives of noble, unhesitating self-sacrifice. The brotherhood of man breathes all through the book, in strong contrast to "A Local Habitation," in which the hero—a prig of the deepest dye—goes to the South End of Boston and looks condescendingly down on the people whom he has chosen to live with, and who—every one of them—are morally his superiors, although, of course, he does not dream it possible. "Differences" is a book to be read and treasured up,—and it will do the young folks of the family good. The story ends, however, just where it ought to begin, with the marriage of the heroine, a patrician to the finger-tips, who gave up the home life where she had always been surrounded with every luxury, to do "settlement work," with a day laborer. The real story should begin, as it would in real life, with the experiences of this couple, who have real love in their hearts, but whose antecedents have been as far apart as the poles. "Hervey White" is the name given as the author, but if we are not mistaken he belongs to the same sex with George Eliot and John Strange Winter. (Chicago, Herbert Stone & Co.)

Julia Ward Howe's "Reminiscences," which have been running in the *Atlantic Monthly* for a year past, have been issued in book form. Mrs. Howe is one of the most remarkable women of the age, and this book contains the facts and memories of her life which have left the deepest impression on her mind, her views of literature and life, her aspirations for woman-kind and for the race, her mature reflections in the interests and principles which most ennoble humanity and make life worth living. Her wide experience in the best society of America and Europe, her fine intellectual equipment and culture, her noble devotion to the highest philanthropies of her time, and her literary eminence,—all combine to give the book a personal interest which greatly enhances its value. Every club woman will want this book. (Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"A Century of Science" is the title of a new volume of Essays by John Fiske, which deal with the doctrine of evolution, the origin of liberal thought in America, the Bacon-Shakespeare folly, cranks and their crotchets, the arbitration treaty, and some personal papers showing careful discrimination and an admirable insight into his friends' lives and purposes. Other essays, like "A Century of Science" are masterpieces of broad survey, skill in grouping facts and tendencies, and condensing into a brief space the results of wide study and well-marshaled thoughts. The book is one of the most interesting and most valuable groups of essays in recent literature. (Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"The Queen's Twin" is one of Sarah Orne Jewett's most delightful tales, and it holds, as it should, the place of honor in Miss Jewett's new volume, but it is only the first of a group of stories of which all bear the impress of fine observation, notable skill in description, generous humor, and a peculiarly delicate yet firm literary touch. Two of the stories include scenes and characters familiar to readers of "The Country of Pointed Firs." Miss Jewett does not write enough to satisfy her public, and any new book she may give us is sure of a warm welcome. (Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"The Wife of His Youth" is the title of another book of short stories. These books abound this season, and probably there is a demand for short stories in this busy world. Charles W. Chesnutt, a young colored man, first won fame with his striking book, "The Conjure Woman," and the first story in this book, from which the title is taken, is both effective and convincing. The other tales in this volume cover a wide field of subjects, but all possess a kind of interest which is rarely excited by a book of short stories. These may well be called short novels, they are so strong and full of character. One or two of them appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*, which fact is a guarantee of their literary excellence. (Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"Scientific Sewing and Garment Cutting" is the title of a modest volume which has been successfully used in one of the training schools of Chicago for the past seven years. The aim is to give the pupil a thorough knowledge of plain needlework, from the simple process of basting to the completion of a dress for graduation. The garment cutting of the system is without charts. The book is an excellent manual in a most important department of woman's industrial education, and will be of great value in the school room and the family home. The system is both simple and comprehensive, and is to be commended as a direct aid in the industrial training of girls. (Boston, Silver, Burdett & Co.)

"The New Evangelism" is the title of a fresh volume from

that strong, helpful writer, Henry Drummond. The book is a collection of addresses, the titles of which are "The New Evangelism and Its Relation to Cardinal Doctrines," a paper read before the Free Church Theological Society of Glasgow; "The New Theology and Some of Its Applications," also delivered at the Theological Society of F. C. College, Glasgow; "Survival of the Fittest," which is a part of the foregoing; "The Third Kingdom," "The Problem of Foreign Missions," and the "Contribution of Science to Christianity." Most of these were never published by the author, but have been gathered since his death and revised for publication. They are pervaded with his wonderful conception of the love of God and what it should mean to man. Spiritual love, not theology, was what he saw in life, in religion, in God, and he has done much to bring modern humanity into touch with these ideas. This last book, though fragmentary, has a value as the final word of Dr. Drummond, and also for the spiritual help it will afford to many honest seekers after truth. (New York, Dodd, Mead & Co.)

"Outside of Things" is a charming book, intended for children, primarily, but quite as interesting to grown folk, for it possesses a delicacy of feeling that the youngsters will scarcely appreciate, although they be in sympathy with it. The author, Alice Wead Bailey, has a dainty fancy, and the true poet's art of seeing fantastic meanings and stories in commonplace things like the wind, the stars, the moon, the Aurora Borealis. The verses are bright and the conceits as quaint and poetic as can be, and they are framed each in its own picture page, carefully conceived and done in delicate colors and with loving touches. Anita Lyman Paine did the drawings, and it is hard to say which are the most delightful, the pictures or the verses. The cover is in blue and silver, with an elf-ridden star and a comet-locks maiden, who figure between the covers also; and the book will make the fortunate child who possesses it happy for many a day. (New York, E. P. Dutton & Co.)

"Bacon or Shakespeare" is the title of a "historical inquiry" by Elizabeth Marriott, and the third edition of which was published in England this past summer, with a special view to circulation in America. It is an answer to Mr. R. M. Bucke's "Shakespeare Dethroned," published two years ago in England, and is to be heartily commended to the Hon. Ignatius Donnelly, with instructions to "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest." Miss Marriott is eighty-four years old, but she writes with all the vigor of thirty (like Mary Cowden-Clarke), and her arguments show not only the greatest familiarity with her Shakespeare, but a logical mind, capable of appreciating the differences between the intellectual qualities of Bacon and Shakespeare. The book is a valuable addition to the ever-accumulating literature on that subject, and is to be commended to Shakesperian students everywhere; its arguments are quite dispassionate and clear, and the author recognizes both her subjects as master minds for which the world must be thankful. (London, Elliot Stock, 62 Paternoster Row.)

Has anybody noticed the beautiful little booklet issued by Charles Scribner's Sons, announcing the plan of Scribner's Magazine for the coming year? It is a real work of art, with illustrations made expressly for it by F. C. Yohn, Walter Appleton Clark, Ernest Seton-Thompson and H. C. Christy. These pictures are printed in color, one of which is a full-page portrait of J. M. Barrie, who contributes the leading serial for 1900. The initials and ornaments are by T. Guernsey Moore; the colored cover and the colored title page are by Maxfield Parrish. The text is a plain statement of the quite remarkable program for 1900—with very few adjectives.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY, NEW YORK.

Some Principles of Literary Criticism. By Prof Winchester of Wesleyan University. Cloth; price \$1.50.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS, NEW YORK.

In Connection with the Willoughby Claim. By Frances Hodgson Burnett. Cloth; \$1.50.

The Hostess of Today. By Linda Hull Larned. Cloth; \$1.50.

Modern Daughters. By Alexander Black. Cloth; \$2.50.

E. P. DUTTON & CO., NEW YORK.

Outside of Things. By Alice Wead Bailey. Cloth; \$1.50.

DODD, MEAD & CO., NEW YORK.

Rosamund; a Tragedy. By Swinburne. Cloth; price \$1.50.

A Guide to the Opera. By Esther Singleton. Cloth, \$1.50.

The New Evangelism. By Henry Drummond. Cloth; \$1.50.

D. APPLETON & CO., NEW YORK.

The Family of the Sun. By Edward S. Holden. Cloth; 50 cents.

A Corner of the West. By Edith Henrietta Fowler. Paper; 50 cents.

The Book of Knight and Barbara. By David Starr Jordan, president Leland Stanford Junior University. Cloth; \$1.50.

The Story of Ronald Kestrel. By A. J. Dawson; Paper; 50 cents.

SMALL, MAYNARD & CO., BOSTON.

Aaron Burr. By Henry Childs Merwin. Cloth; 75 cents.

Frederick Douglass. By Charles W. Chesnutt. Cloth; 75 cents.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN & CO., BOSTON.

Reminiscences of Julia Ward Howe. Cloth; \$2.50.

The Queen's Twin. By Sarah Orne Jewett. Cloth; \$1.25.

A Century of Science. John Fiske. Cloth; \$2.00.

The Wife of His Youth. Charles W. Chesnutt. Cloth; \$1.50.

The Other Fellow. By Hopkinson Smith. Cloth; \$1.50.

LITTLE, BROWN & CO., BOSTON.

At the Wind's Will. Poems by Louise Chandler Moulton. Cloth; \$1.25.

THE CENTURY CO., NEW YORK.

His Defence. By Harry Stillwell Edwards. Cloth; \$1.25.

Holly and "Pizen." By Ruth McEnery Stuart. Cloth; \$1.25.

Little Jim Crow. By Clara Morris. Cloth; \$1.25.

Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker. By S. Weir Mitchell, M. D. Cloth; Continental Edition (handsomely illustrated), \$5.00.

DOUBLEDAY & McCLURE CO., NEW YORK.

Tales of the Telegraph. By Jasper Ewing Brady. Cloth; \$1.25.

Sons of Strength. By William R. Lighton. Cloth; \$1.25.

The Gentleman from Indiana. By Booth Tarkington. Cloth; \$1.50.

MILTON BRADLEY CO., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Love and Law in Child Training. By Emilie Poulsson. Cloth; \$1.25.

Mrs. Stacy, the first president of the Washington Federation, said in convention at Seattle last June: "By many club women the State Federation has been treated as a thing to be petted, or pushed aside, or patronized, as the mood swayed them. Others have held themselves wholly indifferent to federation work and federation officers. Others, still, have openly criticised both officers and work, misinterpreting both motive and endeavor."

AN ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

One of the finest and certainly one of the oldest Shakespeare clubs in England is the "Clifton Shakespere Society" of Bristol, which is now twenty-five years old. The president is Dr. Ernest H. Cook. Two meetings a month are held, the first for reading a play and the second for criticism of it, and special meetings are occasionally held to hear papers of general Shakespearian interest.

Dr. William J. Rolfe, whose article on the "Study of Shakespeare" in our October number has been so much liked, is a corresponding member, and there are two others in America, Dr. Furness of Philadelphia and Mr. Albert Frey of New York. As a supplement to Dr. Rolfe's article, and a possible help to American clubs, we quote from the Clifton Society's calendar:

It is much to be desired that those who take special interest in any of the undermentioned subjects should, from time to time, bring forward reports on one or more of them.

Aesthetic Criticism, Anachronisms, Animals, Arts and Sciences, Biblical and Religious Allusions, Classical and Mythical Allusions, Coins, Weights and Measures, Demonology and Witchcraft, Dress and Social Customs, Early Dramatic Representations, Fine Art, Geography, Grammar, Historical References, Law and Heraldry, Meats and Drinks, Medicine and Surgery, Metre and Authorship, Music and Ballads, Oaths and Exclamations, Personal Histories, Plants, Play-craft, Puns and Jests, Rare Words and Phrases, Satire and Irony, Similes and Metaphors, Sources and History, Sports and Pastimes, Trade and Commerce, Tradition and Folk-lore, Various Readings.

Two of the characters in each play are chosen for critical comment by the Society generally.

It will be remembered that the Chicago Woman's Club last year took up the consideration of "Problems of a Great City," a fortnightly discussion led by eminent men and women that attracted attention over the entire country. This season the subject is "The Outlook for Social Unity," the subtopics and speakers being as follows:

"The Standard of Living," Mrs. Celia Parker Woolley.

"Combination of Labor; Trades Unions," Miss Harriett Fox.

"The Militant Phase," Paul T. Maas.

"Industrial Possibilities," George W. Perkins.

"Combination of Capital; Trusts," Victor Yarros.

"Mutual Relations of Capitol and Labor," Mrs. Charles G. Bolte.

"Charity as a Social Force," Mrs. Mary E. Richmond.

"Adaptation of Education to Social Needs," Miss Maud Summers.

"Mission of the Beautiful"—a symposium with "Love of Nature," by Mrs. Sarah E. Hubbard; "Cultivation of the Sense of Beauty," by Miss Josephine Locke; "Beauty in the Home," by Mrs. Lucy Fitch Perkins; "Unifying Power of Poetry," by Professor Martha Foote Crowe.

"Social Democracy," George E. Vincent.

"The Single Tax," Louis F. Post.

"Influence of Ideas of Life in Current Literature," Mrs. Anna B. McMahon.

"Individualism as a Political Creed," Mrs. Edward F. Ernst.

"Evolutionary Trend," Dr. Rachael S. Yarros.

"The Golden Rule," Samuel M. Jones of Toledo.

"The plan," according to the committee, "is to begin with the ideal or highest standard of life and to follow with theories for the attainment of this ideal, with practical illustration wherever possible."

BUSINESS WOMEN FROM A BUSINESS STAND-POINT:

Mrs. Westover Alden's speech at the New York Federation of Women's Clubs in Rochester, on "Business Women," has caused a great deal of discussion and criticism. We give it entire. Like all she says, it is worth careful consideration.

I HAVE an idea that this topic should have been worded, "Why women, as a rule, do not succeed in business." In the language of Patrick Henry, "If this be treason, make the most of it!"

Thousands of women are running for themselves news-stands, toy stores, thread and needle stores, even cigar stands. They make a living, but little more. Other thousands are doing business in their own homes as dressmakers and milliners, boarding-house keepers, etc. A few in every big city have proven themselves business women in the broadest sense. I know one woman publisher who has made a fortune and whose systematic energy asks no odds from male competitors. I know one woman jeweler whose trade outranks those of all but half a dozen houses in New York. I know one great woman financier who decides absolutely on her own investments and whose fortune is waxing and not waning. But it takes a wonderful sum of conditions to produce a Mrs. Frank Leslie or a Mrs. Hetty Green.

As a rule, women only come into touch with business life as wage earners; and you can almost count on the fingers of one hand those who from such positions have risen to ownership of a business and have gone on making money with that business. More than that, very few positions of executive responsibility in large business establishments are open to women. Hundreds of girl telephone operators work faithfully at the switchboard in New York, but the highest place a woman can obtain is assistant manager of a central office. There must be a man manager. Hundreds of saleswomen and cash girls sell goods or do the running in great stores; but in most cases the floor walkers, the superintendents are men. Hundreds of women teach school, but almost always under a male principal, to whom they are responsible. Hundreds, yes, thousands of women labor long hours in factories, employed, disciplined by fine or suspension, and liable to be dismissed by men, hired men, who have no more interest than they in the work of the concern.

Now, this state of things exists in spite of the sexual conditions that make it hard for any man to be perfectly fair and just as the arbiter where many women are concerned. Why it exists, and why it is justifiable, is a question that has a most important bearing on the education of women. For this reason, only, you are having such a fight today to put Mrs. Montgomery on the school board. She is suffering because of our general standing. Men are judging her by the class. Still we all know that where there are six hundred women teachers and only fourteen men teachers, that every school commissioner but one on that board should be a woman.

Conscience and logic are the two elements that go to make up justice. Both are neglected in the training of girls. Hard as it is to get a man who will treat a hundred girls fairly and get the best work out of them, it is ten times harder to find a woman who will do the same thing. In fact, the latter job is so difficult that business men give it up in despair. They cannot waste their time hunting for prodigies. They must have a system, and that system must involve male superintendence of female labor.

In conclusion, I want to leave with you just one thought. Women, as a rule, do not succeed in business for themselves.

Most of you have dealings with business women, and your own experience will answer the question. Where you find one reliable in every way, she is generally not capable, and when you find a capable woman, she is not reliable. Womankind in general lacks what I call conscience and the knack of assuming responsibility. This is because we have not been taught correctly.

Some of the very best workers of the day are floating around without work—the secret of it is that, though most capable, they are not reliable. One of the best workers I ever had with me failed to report one day, the very day of all days that she should have been on hand, and her excuse was that she did not feel very well, and she thought she'd take a day off. The responsibility she felt was so slight that it did not even occur to her to notify me that she was not coming.

A man's legitimate success in business comes from being capable, reliable and honest. That, it seems to me, is a thought worth remembering.

"SEVENTY YEARS YOUNG,"

With her clever pen, and her heart attune
To the melodies sweet of a soul that is shriven,
Oh, what is so rare as a Jennie June,
Be she seventy years old or seven?

So ran a verse of Mrs. Fannie Hallock Carpenter's poem in honor of Mrs. Croly's seventieth birthday, which was celebrated by the Empire State Society of the United States Daughters of 1812 at Delmonico's in New York, December 19th. About two hundred members and guests were present. Luncheon was the first order of the day, and when all had been seated a Chautauqua salute from every one present was waved to Mrs. Croly, who was seated at the right of the president, Mrs. William Gerry Slade.

Among others who sat at the president's table were Mrs. Charles H. Denison, Mrs. William Tod Helmuth, Mrs. A. M. Palmer, "Aunt Louisa" Eldridge, Miss Anna M. Jones, Mrs. Edward Lee Young, Mrs. Angus Cameron, of Wisconsin; Mrs. Raymond Perry and Miss Ellen Burt Ford.

Mrs. Carpenter's poem was the first of the after dinner services.

In Mrs. Slade's greeting to Mrs. Croly she referred to her as the "Mother of Clubs," and said that every act she had done for women had been good.

In Mrs. Croly's reply she said: "I find it difficult to say anything worthy of such an occasion as you have made. I wonder whether you are talking about me or some one else; but if I ever did anything to merit this I am so thankful that I ever did that I do not know how to put it in words. I think I was born with a love for women in my heart. If club life has done nothing else it has brought to flower a new life, a new love—the love of womankind for womankind. It is the sweetest, dearest, most unselfish love in the world."

When Mrs. Croly had taken her seat the president called a business meeting, and a motion by Mrs. Helmuth to elect Mrs. Croly an honorary member of the society was carried enthusiastically, although she was English born.

Mrs. Helmuth then read a charming poem, written by Alma Calder Johnston, preceding it with a beautiful tribute to Mrs. Croly, whom she greeted as "our mother."

Mrs. Denison, president of Sorosis, made some charming remarks, and alluded to Mrs. Croly as our "universal mother." She said that woman was at the beginning of all great things, and that Mrs. Croly, now rounding out her threescore years and ten, was witness to the great success of her fifty years'

work for club women.

Mrs. Jennie de la M. Lozier said she often wondered how it was that some people never grow old. She had been seeking for the reason and the recipe, but finally she believed she had discovered the secret to be enthusiasm and enthusiastic sympathy with every topic of the day. No matter what topic Mrs. Croly is confronted with, she said, she is always familiar with it. This following up advanced thought and always being ready to thoroughly appreciate every topic of the day has kept Mrs. Croly young. No wonder, she said, that the youngest club woman feels Mrs. Croly a companion. Only in the eyes of club women, however, will you find this true enthusiasm—this never growing old.

Other speakers were Mrs. A. M. Palmer, Mrs. Anne Maxwell Jones and "Aunt Louisa" Eldridge.

One of the prettiest features of this birthday party was the bringing in and serving of the huge pyramidal birth 'ay cake, with pink icing and lighted by seventy tiny candles. The seventy pink and white candles that had illuminated the cake were distributed among the guests of honor. Before the guests dispersed Mrs. Helmuth slipped into Mrs. Croly's hand a beautiful fan. Among the many presents were several purses filled with gold that required three figures to name the amounts.

No club can afford to hide its light under a bushel. The snuffing-out process of the bushel business is out of fashion. It is as great a blockade to progress to keep a back seat when entitled to a front one as to usurp a front seat when deserving a back one. In Arkansas we expect to have no use for back seats.—Mrs. Frederick Hanger, President Arkansas Federation.

The Women of Birmingham, Ala., have organized an Alabama Woman's Building Association. It is their intention to erect, as soon as possible, a handsome club building, which will serve as a place of meeting for all Women's organizations of the city and suburbs. Rooms for the accommodation of the various clubs, assembly rooms for lectures, recitals, etc., and apartments intended for the comfort of out-of-town women will be included in the building plan.

From the Hii-yu Wa-wa Club of Snohomish, Washington, comes the following:

Let others join the revel,
The merry feast or dance;
We seek a higher level,
A purer air, perchance.
To gather store of wisdom
We scan the abstruse page,
And con in folios heavy
The lore of many a sage.
No subject now appals us,
We're equally at home
Upon an ichthyosaurus' tooth,
Or ancient fane of Rome,
The Tarquins, say, or Kipling,
Theosophy or soap,
Law, ethics or the fall of Troy,
The last illness of the Pope.
Five minute calls on Science,
A dinner given to Art,
A card left on Religion,
(She's not in the set called smart.)
A chat with fair Dame Literature,
And Poesy, divine maid;
We feel, we weary women,
That our club dues are paid.

—N. B. M.

WHAT THE LEADING CLUB WOMEN THINK.

Your December number is a mine of wealth, a store of good things. It is so helpful to know what other State Federations are doing.—Mary Vance Humphrey, Junction City, Kansas.

You cannot know what "The Club Woman" is to me. We are so far from the club centers that I should feel quite off the circuit and that the current had been cut but for its monthly visitations and ministrations.—Mrs. Frederick Hanger, President Arkansas Federation.

The December numbers of The Club Woman are beautiful. The cover with its glorious red puts one in sympathy immediately with the contents of the magazine; thus are we so easily influenced by external appearances.—Minnie M. Kendrick, Corresponding Secretary, G. F. W. C.

I can hardly express the pleasure and profit which I derive from every number of The Club Woman. It is also an inspiration, for I learn what others are doing, and thereby gain courage and strength.—Mrs. V. E. Keeler, Vice-President for Conn. of National Household Econ. Asso.

I hasten to renew my subscription that I may not miss a number. I subscribed for the first number for our most delightful club, the "Rasores." We make the last meeting of each month a "Club Woman" meeting and always enjoy it thoroughly.—Mrs. Horace Kimball, President "Rasores," Plainfield, N. J.

The Club Woman is an admirable paper, growing stronger, it seems to me, with each number, and I could not do without it. Have you noticed that Colorado has the largest number of clubs in the General Federation, Massachusetts being next.—Mrs. C. A. Eldridge, Chairman of State Correspondence for Colorado.

Owing to my absence in Alaska, British Columbia and elsewhere during the past year, I have missed many numbers of The Club Woman, and have felt that each one lost left a chilly blank space between me and the ardent, earnest workers whose deeds and thoughts The Club Woman chronicles and carries.—M. G. Campbell, San Francisco, Cal.

The "Club Woman" grows more and more helpful. Whatever I want help about I can usually find in its files. This afternoon my club meeting is to be held, and so many who were to be on the program are reported ill that I feared I should be short of material; but I turn to my "Club Woman" and find aid.
Edith M. Conant, Wells, Minn.

The Christmas number is unusually attractive with its bright red cover, but the editor's suggestion that the magazine "will be re(a)d this month anyway" is unnecessary, for it is read every month in the year by all club women who desire to keep in touch with the work of the great club movement.—Mrs. Florence Collins Porter, President Maine Federation, in the Aroostook Republican.

I must tell you that I attended the Ohio State Federation, held in Cincinnati the last week in October, and I was greatly surprised and delighted to find in what great estimation The "Club Woman" is held and how extensively it is taken. I took mine with me, hoping to get a few subscribers, but everybody I met seemed to have it already. You deserve great credit and I heartily rejoice in your success.

Mary A. Newton, New York City.

General Federation of Women's Clubs.

LIST OF OFFICERS:

President,
MRS. WILLIAM B. LOWE,
 513 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga.
 Vice-President,
MRS. SARAH S. PLATT,
 Hotel Metropole, Denver, Colo.

Recording Secretary,
MRS. EMMA A. FOX,
 21 Bagley Avenue, Detroit, Mich.
 Corresponding Secretary,
MRS. G. W. KENDRICK, Jr.,
 3507 Baring Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer,
MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE,
 1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.
 Auditor,
MRS. C. P. BARNES,
 1026 3rd Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.

GENERAL FEDERATION NEWS.

THE MILWAUKEE BIENNIAL.

WHEN Mrs. Buchwalter and Mrs. Platt visited Milwaukee for the second time this fall to look over the ground more thoroughly, they announced that the program for the coming Biennial would not be given out till toward spring. Therefore all that will be known of the details of the program will have to do with its personelle, until the Biennial is no longer months but weeks away. Enough is known already, however, of the affairs of Biennial week to insure its success, and to promise much that is novel.

Mrs. Buchwalter, chairman of the program committee, reports that the committee has so many good things offered that selection is going to be a matter of no little difficulty. As usual, Education and its ramifications are to be given the most prominent place on the program, and industrial education in particular will be emphasized. Philanthropy will have an important place.

One departure of the committee has been in giving art a prominent place in the regular program. The art committee, indeed, was one of the four new committees introduced, and the subject is to be given great general prominence and to occupy an afternoon and an evening session. The local art committee is to have a loan exhibit in arts and crafts, which will be the best of its sort ever attempted in the West.

The action of the local Biennial board in one direction has been awaited with a great deal of interest by the General Federation. This is its management of the social side of the convention.

This has been at last arranged so that it seems the logical result of all that has gone before. There will be a sufficient number of social functions so that the non-resident members may meet one another and may meet the Milwaukee club women. The generous hospitality of the other towns which have been convention cities to the Biennial made it a difficult matter for Milwaukee to decide.

As it stands now, the social program includes a reception, to be given Tuesday afternoon from 4 until 7 o'clock, by the Athenaeum and the Woman's Club, at the Athenaeum. The interest in this building, one of the first to be built and owned by women for club purposes, will make this affair especially delightful. The great regret is that it was impossible to accept the evening reception at the Athenaeum which was offered. Wednesday afternoon from 4 until 6 o'clock the guests will be taken to drive along the lake shore to Milwaukee-Downer College. The new buildings, taken possession of last fall, will be thrown open at the invitation of the president, Miss Ellen C. Sabin, and the Ladies' Art and Science Class, the second largest club in the city, will be the hostess at a reception from 4 until 6 o'clock. The college buildings are the home of this federated club. Thursday afternoon is to be given up to state receptions, held from 4 until 6.30 o'clock in several homes

which have been offered for the purpose. As established by precedent, the General Federation declined with thanks an afternoon reception offered by the State Federation. It was also found impossible to accept a reception offered by the Women's Club of Waukesha. The four days, with evening sessions, are far too short to make room for all, in a social way, and for the program that has been offered.

In the interest of hospitality there have been introduced three new committees, Art being the fourth. These are the Reception, Introduction, and Non-resident Introduction committees. It is planned that members of these committees will be in attendance at every session, and this is expected to have much to do with the feeling of being at home which it is hoped that every guest will have.

The matter of entertainment of guests will be conducted as it has been other years. The delegates to the convention who will be entertained will be the presidents of State Federations, Chairmen of State Correspondence, and speakers. Arrangements will be made for other delegates at the hotels, and at boarding houses at special rates offered to the hostesses. The Plankinton House will be headquarters of the Biennial.

The spirit of the coming Biennial, and the advance of thought about each succeeding Biennial, was very forcefully brought out by Mrs. James Sidney Peck, chairman of the local Biennial board, in an address made at Eau Claire and repeated at Waukesha a few weeks ago. A part of what she said follows:

"It is assumed that the secret of this marvellous growth, covering less than a period of ten years, is primarily due to its foundation principle of helpfulness to the woman's club in general, and inclusively to women as an integral part of the club. This statement of helpfulness as the key-note of the organization is made advisedly, as the speaker was in attendance, as president and delegate of the Woman's Club of Milwaukee, at the inception of the idea, on the occasion of that unique Sorosis convention, March 19, 1889, in New York City, the hostess, Sorosis, then celebrating her 21st birthday. The preliminary note had been struck by Jennie June, and for the development of the plans one year later the Sorosis president appointed a committee of fourteen women, of which the speaker was one, and while unable to serve on the committee, it led her to watch closely the result. And at the meeting of the so-christened General Federation of Women's Clubs in New York in 1890, and at the last Biennial in Denver, the claim of helpfulness has been fully sustained. Every Biennial, Chicago, Philadelphia, Louisville and Denver, has had its individual features, and from the nature of the case this must continue. But the general spirit of helpfulness dominates."

After a resume of what the Biennial of 1900 will be, Mrs. Peck added:

"The hostess, Milwaukee, has her place as an exponent of hospitality, for it must be remembered that unlike any former Biennial, the invitation to Milwaukee was not extended by a woman's club or clubs, but by the Citizens' Business League, this result being due to the efforts of the Milwaukee College

Endowment Association, led by its alert and far-seeing president, Mrs. Hannah R. Vedder. All the women's clubs, federated or unfederated, have thus fallen in line to aid in the great undertaking. As each committee contains two non-resident members from the state, the latter will be kept in touch with the work. That the united effort of the General Federation, the State Federation and the Local Biennial Board will produce an occasion worthy of its predecessors seems self-evident. But in taking up the long intervening stretch of work it will be well to remember that the law of the individual worker applies as truly to this heroic task, and that added to the combined effort is the helpful influence of all who have confidence in the end to be achieved, faith in the ability to carry on the work wisely, and an all-round belief in the accomplishment of much good by the Biennial of 1900."

Mrs. Buchwalter intends to do one thing that no chairman has ever done before in making preparations: she will write to each speaker in connection with other things in regard to the work, and ask her if she wishes entertainment. Should she not do so, she will not hand her name to the local board. Should a state president or state chairman be on the program as a speaker and wish entertainment she will inform the local board of this. This only applies to the speakers. The M. L. B. will also invite all the General Federation board state presidents and state chairmen, but in the matter of speakers she will save them by this plan from writing to ladies whom she knows prefer going to a hotel.

The following clubs have been admitted recently into the G. F. W. C.:

The Woman's Club, Beaver Dam, Wis., Mrs. Sara E. Johnson, President.

The Study Class, Merrill, Wis., Mrs. E. S. King, President.
Columbian Club, Markesa, Wis., Mrs. E. C. Smith, President.

The application of the Pawtucket Woman's Club, Pawtucket, R. I., has been accepted and they were admitted to the General Federation November 9th, 1899. Mrs. Edward L. Johnson, President, Central Falls, R. I.

Mrs. Charles M. Dow of Jamestown is president of the Western New York Federation, the other officers elected last June being: First vice-president, Mrs. Charles F. Kingsley, 865 7th street, Buffalo, N. Y.; second vice-president, Mrs. S. A. Sherwin, Batavia, New York; recording secretary, Mrs. Albert E. Jones, 96 Norwood avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.; corresponding secretary, Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, Randolph, N. Y.; treasurer, Mrs. Elijah Cook, Hamburg, New York. Mrs. Dow has been a club president for many years and was for three years state chairman of correspondence for New York State.

Mrs. Sarah S. Platt, for five years president of the Denver Woman's Club, and now the very popular vice-president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, was married last month to Judge W. S. Decker of Denver. The ceremony was performed by Dean Hart in St. John's Chapel, in the presence of a few friends of the contracting parties. The bride and groom left the same evening for a few days at St. Louis. They will be at Hotel Metropole this winter, and in the spring will take a house. Judge Decker has been Mrs. Platt's lawyer ever since the death of Colonel Platt left her affairs in a tangled condition. Their engagement has been rumored for a long time. "May many happy years befall."

Send us four subscribers at \$1.00 each and get your own subscription free.

We naturally take pride as well as pleasure in the following letter:

Milwaukee, Wis., Nov. 14, 1899.

Miss Helen M. Winslow, Editor The Club Woman, Boston.

Dear Madam:

It gives me pleasure to say that at the regular meeting of the Biennial Local Board, held this morning, it was voted to recognize "The Club Woman" of Boston as the official organ of said Board.

Elizabeth Vose,

Corresponding Secretary.

In return for the honor thus accorded, The Club Woman will do everything possible to further the work of the Local Board, and to spread the news of its work all over the country. Newspapers and club journals everywhere are invited to cooperate by giving publicity to all news regarding the work of the Milwaukee committees or the G. F. W. C. Board found in our columns.

Typographically it has always been of the highest order, and with its up-to-date Federation news The Club Woman has no rival in its peculiar field.—The Boston Sunday Herald.

A LONDON LETTER.

Mrs. Lowe has received the following letter which she desires to present to the club women of America.

1 Lamballe Road, Belsaye Sq., N. W.
Society of American Women,
London.

Dear Madam:—

As President of the Society of American Women in London and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Hospital Ship fund (Lady Randolph Churchill, Chairman) also as representing with Mrs. Arthur Paget "Ways and Means" in that committee, I am writing you to enlist your interest in this fund which we American women in London are raising to fit out our Hospital Ship. Politically, we maintain in the interest of our country, a neutral ground, but our effort is in the hearty spirit of "good will toward men," and we feel that we women can do much in furthering this spirit of good will by this effort, and bring into closer bond the tie of "Internationalism."

It was said in the general committee Saturday that it was the great desire of the ladies to give an opportunity to the American women throughout America to contribute to the fund and the best way to reach them discussed. I suggested that we approach the Federation of Women's Clubs, which, as a great organization could reach the greatest number, and I would add that Mrs. Blow is writing to a number of ladies, to urge strongly this effort which in England would be taken as earnest of *great womanliness*.

Lady Randolph Churchill has requested me to be the medium in this effort in my appeal to you to make this letter known to all great centres. I will receive and acknowledge all subscriptions and donations, and forward same to the treasurer of the fund most gratefully. Our society is an evidence of its good will and interest in this movement, in addition to raising its fund (we are working as one with the General Committee, but here pride also is working as an organization) are giving a big At Home at the Hotel Cecil on Wednesday evening, Nov. 15th. I am thinking that if this effort for us is possible to your organization that a cable from you to this effect would be hailed with great joy and that I could read it at the gathering. The cable may be sent to Griffin, Hotel Cecil, London, or to my own cable address "Irichords, London." I do greet you, in all cordiality, and thank you for the courtesy of reading this long letter, which I have had to write in greatest haste to catch the outgoing mail. I am asking Mrs. Croly to reach you for me.

I am yours sincerely,

C. L. Griffin.

STATE FEDERATION NEWS.

VERMONT.

The fourth annual meeting of the Vermont Federation of Women's Clubs was held at Lyndonville, October 18 and 19.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Delia M. Needham, and after prayer and music, and the secretary's report, Mrs. H. Chase of Lyndonville very graciously welcomed the Federation, opening hearts and homes to officers and delegates. In the absence of Miss Welling, Mrs. Needham responded. Next in order was the roll-call of clubs, with a three minutes' response by directors. These reports were most interesting, revealing the different lines of work and study pursued, which cover a wide range in literature, from Shakespeare to current events, from art in the public schools to the kindergarten; from establishing traveling libraries to village improvements.

The Enosburgh Falls Club has earned and used \$400 for this purpose, and the Civic Federation of Barre, composed of three clubs, has earned and used \$1200. The Brattleboro Club has supported a kindergarten the past three years. This club holds two sessions. All programs given at the regular afternoon meetings are repeated in the evening, at which teachers and women occupied through the day make up the attendance. The Oread Club of Johnson gave a lawn party, and with the proceeds added 100 volumes to the public library. These clubs are mentioned not to make any invidious distinction, but rather to show some of the practical work they are doing. There was not a report made that did not carry with it some helpful suggestion.

Thursday morning's session opened with music, followed by the president's address. Mrs. Needham first paid her respects to our great naval hero, Admiral Dewey. This could hardly be omitted, the convention coming as it did right on the heels of Vermont's Dewey Day, the echoes of which were still in the air. Culling from Mrs. Needham's address we find that at the beginning of the Federation year a correspondence was opened with every town in the state where a woman's club of any sort was organized, which met with a generous response and bore fruit in various ways, seven clubs being added, and the Vermont Federation became well advertised, if nothing more. The Federation has five standing committees, viz: education, state institutions, reciprocity, libraries and industrial condition of women and children. Miss Archibald of Middlebury was chairman of the education committee, and her circular of suggestions received the approval of Mr. Mason Stone, state superintendent of schools.

Speaking of the reorganization of the G. F. W. C., Mrs. Needham said, as she understood it, "the main question is whether clubs shall be represented only through their State Federations. It seems to me the only way is to follow the plan which has been tested and found adequate in other great organizations, viz: Have our State Federations composed of local clubs and the G. F. W. C. composed of State Federations. Vermont cannot boast of a large number of clubs, but the small Federation holds all the possibilities for usefulness that the larger one does. The call for active, earnest, unselfish women is imperative, because they stand for everything that is good and pure and ennobling. We must give a more perfect consecration, spread the gospel of sisterhood and give to women less fortunate the knowledge how to be helpful to each other. Give something of yourself and our motto will take on a new and deeper meaning, 'The union of all for the good of all.'"

The report of the library committee, Miss Louisa L. Bartlett chairman, showed a comprehensive scheme of work, and it is hoped that every town in Vermont will ultimately be

supplied with a library.

Miss Bartlett was followed by Mrs. Walter P. Smith of St. Johnsbury, who reported the extent the traveling library movement has reached in other states and converted to her way of thinking every woman present. She was followed by Miss Mary L. Titcomb, secretary of the Vermont Library Commission, who gave a practical talk as to ways and means by which the committee's suggestions might be carried out and good books placed in every part of the state. As a result the Federation appointed a central committee of three and another committee of seven, and the work is to be begun immediately.

Revising the Constitution was the next business in order, and we are glad to report that a much better document was produced with very little friction.

The afternoon session opened with a report of the committee on state institutions by the chairman, Mrs. Helen D. Ross. The special work attempted was to get a woman appointed on the state board of charitable institutions. Through their recommendation petitions were circulated throughout the state by women and presented to the Legislature. As a result the matter was referred to a special Legislative committee. The Federation committee was summoned before them, their arguments given respectful attention, and there is hope that the petition would be granted finally, as it was reported favorably, but Legislators have "ways that are dark and tricks that are sly," and the bill was lost. The Federation voted to continue the committee.

The committee on the industrial condition of women in Vermont found little to report. We have a small mill or factory contingent, and so far as investigated the girls seemed satisfied with wages and hours of labor. The chairman of the committee on education sent an excellent report, showing a wide field for work. The committee was continued, and with Miss Clark as chairman we shall get efficient service. The papers following were full of interest and suggestion. Mrs. Stevenson's "Women on the School Board" was of exceptional merit. It was voted to put it into the Reciprocity Bureau, which now contains eight papers.

Among the resolutions that were passed was one protesting against the seating of Congressman-elect Roberts of Utah.

The social features of the convention consisted of a reception in the elegantly appointed home of Mrs. E. W. Hutchins on Wednesday evening, which was largely attended and enjoyed, amid flowers and music and interchange of greetings; old friendships were renewed, new ones made and the bonds of comradeship cemented. The officers and delegates were given a ride before the Wednesday session and between the Thursday sessions about Lyndonville, one of the most enterprising, up-to-date, go-ahead villages I ever visited.

Thursday evening closed the program with a lecture by Mrs. Florence Howe Hall, to which the public was invited. Mrs. Hall's subject was the Progress of Woman in the 19th Century. An informal reception followed, and thus ended one of the most successful meetings ever held by the Vermont Federation.

The Sorosis Club of Chickasha, I. T., is now in its fourth year, and is doing good work. Meetings are held on Wednesday afternoon of each week at the home of some member. The membership is limited to twenty-five, and comprises brilliant minds and cultured intelligence worthy of a place other than a frontier town in the Indian Territory. Mrs. Eugenie Hamilton, president of the society for this year, was also chosen president for the first year of the club's existence. Shakespeare, Scott and George Eliot are on the list for the coming winter's reading, and papers on various subjects are now in course of preparation.

MAINE.

The eighth annual meeting of Maine Federation of Women's Clubs was held in Waterville, from October 10 to 12 by invitation of the Woman's Literary Club of that city. Nature lent kindly aid to the federation in the sunny skies and most delightful warmth which greeted the club women for the entire meeting. These, with the most cordial and untiring courtesy and hospitality of the typical progressive club entertaining, would have made the eighth annual a memorable meeting, but with the excellent program furnished it proved a meeting intellectually and socially second to none of those preceding. The reception Tuesday evening in the elegant new Chemical Hall which was kindly tendered the Federation by the faculty of Colby College, was a brilliant affair and was attended by several hundred. The ladies receiving were: Mrs. E. W. Hall, president of the Women's Club of Waterville; Miss Porter, president of the Federation; Mrs. Mary Dame Hall, ex-president of the mother club (Soros); Mrs. Ellen Richards of Boston; Miss Lucia Connor, vice-president; Mrs. Grace Thompson, recording secretary; Mrs. E. P. Grimes, corresponding secretary; Mrs. H. E. Herrick, treasurer; Miss Nellie E. Marston, state chairman of correspondence for General Federation. The reception line was kept very busy for two hours meeting representatives from different clubs of the state.

At the Baptist church Wednesday morning the first day's meeting begun. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion with plants, ferns and the American flag faced with the banner of the Federation, which was of crimson with "Welcome" inscribed in gold upon it. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Porter and invocation offered by Mrs. Anna Sargent Hunt. An organ prelude by Mrs. Wallace Smith was listened to with great pleasure. Mrs. E. W. Holt then delivered the address of welcome in fitting words and extended a delightfully cordial welcome to the Federation. Mrs. Porter accepted in behalf of the Federation the gracious greetings offered and spoke of the present standing of the Federation. She stated that the progress of the clubs the past year is very gratifying. The Federation numbers 106 clubs at this time and over 4400 women are enrolled as club women.

The honored guest of the Federation was Mrs. Mary Dame Hall of New York, who paid a most graceful tribute to Maine club women. Dr. Pepper of Colby College addressed the ladies in a very happy manner for a few moments. A telegram of greeting was read from Mrs. Lowe. Greetings by letters were read from Sarah Orne Jewett, Mrs. Sarah Platt, vice-president of the G. F. W. C. Mrs. Fernald reported over 30 deaths in the Federation during the past year. The subject of representation of the Maine Federation at the Paris Exposition was favorably discussed.

Not the least entertaining part of the program was the music furnished by Waterville talent and rendered in a most artistic manner. The real business of the meeting included the discussion of the amendment to the constitution, which was taken up and caused a lively discussion. Article III, section 4, of the constitution of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs is as follows:

"The general officers shall be elected annually by ballot. One delegate for each club present shall form a nominating board to present a list of officers for election. A majority vote of those present and entitled to vote and voting shall constitute an election."

The amendment was as follows:

"At each annual meeting a committee of five shall be nominated from the floor to present a list of officers and members of standing committees for election at the succeeding annual meeting. This nominating committee shall notify their nominees, and in case of any refusals shall supply their places.

"They shall send a copy of the list to the secretary of each federated club not later than March 25.

"In case of vacancies occurring after the list is sent out, they shall be filled by the nominating committee, notice of the same being appended to the call for the annual meeting.

"These officers and committees shall be elected annually by printed ballot, prepared by the nominating committee, and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected.

"A majority vote shall elect.

Respectfully submitted, Etta H. Osgood,

For the Committee.

The amendment was adopted.

The nominating committee made according to the new constitution consisted of: Mrs. E. W. Hall, Waterville; Mrs. Nicholas Fessenden, Fort Fairfield; Mrs. H. C. Beedy, Farmington; Mrs. A. F. Simmons, Rockland; Mrs. Sarah F. Hamilton, Saco. The committee to arrange for representation of the Maine Federation at the Paris Exposition were: Miss Julia May, Lewiston; Mrs. George C. Frye, Portland; Mrs. Annie G. Pepper, Waterville.

Miss Connor has been invited to write the history of the traveling library movement in Maine for the New York Bulletin, which is to form a part of the Educational exhibit at the Paris Exposition.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. Florence Collins Porter, Caribou; vice-president, Miss Lucia H. Conner, Fairfield; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Camilla C. H. Grimes, Caribou; recording secretary, Mrs. Grace H. Thompson, Bangor; treasurer, Miss Inez A. Blanchard, Portland; state chairman of correspondence for National Federation, Miss Nellie E. Marston, Monmouth; chairman of reciprocity bureau, Mrs. W. H. Newell, Lewiston; committee on education, Mrs. Annie G. Pepper, Waterville; Miss Mary H. Snow, Bangor; Miss Kate C. Estabrook, Orono; Miss Martha W. Fairfield, Saco; Miss Bertha L. Soule, Bath. After receiving several reports of committees the federation adjourned without delay.

The committee on resolutions, Mrs. W. H. White of Lewiston, Mrs. Cunningham of Bucksport, Mrs. A. W. Butler of Mechanic Falls, Mrs. James Thissell of Bangor, Mrs. E. J. Mayo of Foxcroft, presented a list of resolutions, including thanks to railroad, press, the club and citizens.

The committee on music festival, Miss Noyes, reported in favor of endorsing the work and aim of the Music festival and promising to co-operate as far as possible.

Reports of many clubs were given, which showed that the club movement steadily gains in strength. Some spirited discussion as to the advisability of doing away with these reports ensued. The able manner in which this discussion and that of other matters was handled by the ladies showed an unusual knowledge of parliamentary law.

Upon Mrs. Etta Osgood was conferred the position of state parliamentarian—an office most worthily filled.

Mrs. W. H. Newell presented an admirable list as arranged by her of the papers now in the reciprocity bureau of which she is chairman. The list has been greatly enlarged the past year by the untiring efforts of Mrs. Newell. By invitation the midwinter meeting will be at Westbrook in January. The difficulties under which the General Federation is laboring as to reorganization were presented by the state chairman of correspondence of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The careful attention to every detail given by the entertaining club was greatly appreciated and the Federation will long hold in kindest remembrance the ladies who did so much for the success of the eighth annual meeting of the Maine Federation of Women's Clubs.

Nellie Elizabeth Marston,

State Chairman of Cor. for G. F. W. C.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Massachusetts Federation has recently reprinted the circular from the Social Science Committee, which was published in full in the last April Club Woman. The department of Household Science has just issued the following circular:

There is a growing tendency among thoughtful women to look upon the conducting of the household as a science and an art, instead of an affair of tradition, habit, fashion, or instinct. We ask you to consider what this tendency means. Household science is not satisfied with any routine performance of duties, nor with any self-sacrificing devotion to trifles in the home. Instead, it demands of us an intelligent adaptation of means to the accomplishment of really worthy ends. What are some of these ends, and what are their relative values? What means can we best employ in working toward them? We submit these questions to you for study. We cannot answer them in this circular, but we give some topics with comments and a list of books, which may prove helpful in their solution. We suggest:

1. That clubs form classes and study topically the subjects indicated, referring to the books given in the subjoined list, or to others which may come to their notice. A leader may be appointed from the class for each meeting or for the entire course.

2. That, where public libraries do not contain an adequate number of suitable books on the subject of household science, they be requested to furnish them; and, where no public libraries exist, clubs start circulating libraries upon the subject of household science.

3. That "Home Talent Days" be held during the year, with papers from members, giving the results of their reading and study, followed by a general discussion. Exceptionally good papers might be lent to other clubs.

By these means we believe that women may gain more information for the same expenditure of money than through paid lectures; and they may learn, besides, what is most valuable, how to acquire knowledge of a subject through independent study. They may have, too, in the interchange of their ideas on "Home Talent Days" a really keen social pleasure.

HEALTH AND STRENGTH.

Primarily it should be the object of all household science to promote in every member of the family superb physical health and strength. It is easy to assent to this proposition, but probably not one of us in fifty in apportioning our household outlay of time and money makes the health the first consideration. We are too thoughtless and too ignorant. Do we realize that carpeted rooms and upholstered furniture and dresses which drag in the street are not compatible with absolute cleanliness? Do we know, except by hearsay, anything about the nutritive value of different foods? Do we value our own health and serenity in the family more than the tucking or ruffling of a child's frock? Have we self-control enough to refrain from worrying and pushing our children, in order that they may excel those of our neighbor?

Under this topic of "health," the committee wish to call your attention to the subject of noon luncheons for children in one-session schools. Every mother knows the importance of proper food at certain intervals to keep the child in a healthy condition. The early and oftentimes light breakfast is entirely insufficient to last until two or three o'clock, when the child returns home too hungry and tired to care for food. Sometimes a lunch is carried from home, but not generally; and the best and surest way of meeting the need is to have it provided in the school-house at a slight cost to the pupil. In Massachusetts there are 261 high schools, with an attendance of 38,133 pupils. Many of the schools have already adopted the method proposed.

How many others are willing to try the experiment? In 1894 school lunches were established in the high schools in the city of Boston. In the beginning a public-spirited woman generously furnished the means, but at the present time they are practically self-supporting. Lunches may be furnished by contract or they may be largely prepared in the school kitchen. Different menus may be offered each day, soup and simple food being requisite. It is a satisfaction to know that, among the masters, the testimony is unanimous that through these lunches the child is being educated in right living, and that their beneficial effect is evident in the increased vigor of the pupils, and indirectly is influencing the men and women of the future.

We suggest that you study the relations of this subject of "Health and Strength" to the following:

- 1, Cleanliness; 2, air and light; 3, food and water; 4, clothing; 5, sleep; 6, exercise; 7, cold baths as a tonic; 8, regularity in living; 9, worry, cramming in schools, idleness, undue competitive strain.

SAVING OF TIME AND LABOR IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

The subject of economy in the use of money was brought before you at the Federation meeting in Fitchburg. There is another economy, which saves the housekeeper's time and labor, that seems to us to be not less important. Many a housewife is like a traveller endeavoring to go sight-seeing with six trunks to repack daily. The really important needs of her family she cannot attend to, because of a host of details and trifling elegances to look after. Could we not avoid much waste of time and energy through getting rid of superfluities, doing nothing for mere show, and systematizing our labor? Is any one, not of the very poor, living simply enough, who cannot find at least an hour of leisure daily? Do we recognize sufficiently the fact that a little leisure wisely spent may give more grace and elegance to a home than fine furniture, bric-a-brac, or elaborate dinners? When a woman sacrifices her freshness, her cheerfulness, and her individual growth to her house and table and servants, is it not a short-sighted unselfishness? Do we remember that beauty of heart and generous thought more than material surroundings make hospitality gracious? Let us have the independence to set our own standards of living and of entertaining, and in doing this, let us consider a little more what things are really most worth while.

Could not washing, ironing, bread, pastry, and cake-making be done better and with a saving of time, money, and labor, if done co-operatively? Good bread is comparatively rare. Why should not families employ through co-operation an expert scientific bread-maker with modern improvements for baking? A club or a group of friends might do the community a service by trying some experiments in co-operative work, to show what is possible.

We suggest that you study the relations of this subject, the "Saving of Time and Labor in the Household," to the following:

1. Simplicity in style of living—in house, furniture, food, clothing; 2, systematization of work; 3, co-operation.

HELPFULNESS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

One often hears parents deplore the fact that their children have not the same opportunities which they had of learning to be useful in the home. Is it so much, though, that opportunities for usefulness do not exist, as that they are not embraced? If the members of the family, each according to his ability, took some share of the household work and responsibility, the mother could more easily find some hours of freedom for herself, the servant question would be less pressing, and the strain

of meeting the expenses of the family diminished. Then, since it is acknowledged that childhood is the best time to learn to do things with the hands, why ask for manual training in schools and shut it out of the home? Can there be any better way of giving men and women a sense of obligation to society than by teaching them early that they owe some service to the family? And, if we wish to show others that we respect labor and believe in helping each other, must we not show it by example in our households? We suggest that you consider, How under modern conditions children may be made helpful in the household.

BEAUTY IN THE HOME.

The importance of beauty needs very little emphasis. Most women strive for it sufficiently, but with results far from satisfactory even to themselves. We need to learn how to make our homes beautiful. For simple, practical help on this subject, we refer you especially to some leaflets published by the Twentieth Century Club, under the title of "Beauty in the Home," and suggest that several copies of these be purchased by each club for circulation among its members. The cost only \$1.00 for twenty copies. We suggest also the following questions for discussion in classes, or upon "Home Talent Days":—

Is beauty best obtained by making it the chief end sought?

How shall we distinguish between the beautiful, and the fashionable, costly, showy, or novel?

Which do you value most in rooms and in furniture, beauty of form, of color, or of ornamentation?

Do you agree with the thought from Emerson, "Beauty rests on necessities"?

Why would a museum or curiosity shop not be beautiful as a sitting-room?

LIST OF BOOKS FOR REFERENCE.

Hygiene and Public Health. Louis C. Parkes, M. D. (H. K. Lewis, London.)

How to Drain a House. George E. Waring, Jr. (H. Holt & Co., New York.)

The Influence of Clothing on Health. Sir Frederic Treves. (Cassell & Co., London.)

The Commonwealth. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M. D. (Longmans, London.)

Health and Life. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M. D. (Daldy, J., & Co., London.)

Dust and Its Dangers. Prudden. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Drinking Water and Ice Supplies. Prudden. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Modern Dress. T. F. Pearse, M. D. (Wyman & Sons, London.)

The Philosophy of Clothing. W. Matthieu Williams. (T. Laurie, London.)

Household Economics. Helen Campbell. (Little, Brown & Co.)

Domestic Science. Lucy Salmon. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

Food for School Children. Collected Leaflets, Home Science Publishing Company, 485 Tremont Street.

Rumford Kitchen Leaflets, Nos. 16 and 20.

Household Financiering. Professor Smith in the Kitchen Magazine for September.

House Beautiful. A magazine published by Herbert Stone & Co., Chicago.

Beauty in the Home. Leaflets published by Twentieth Century Club, 14 Ashburton Place.

Mrs. Sarah A. Forbes, Chairman,

Mrs. Mary C. Collar,

Mrs. Anna D. Hallowell,

Miss Helen A. Wright,

Committee on Household Science

The February meeting will be held in Charlestown by invitation of the Norumbega Club, and will be in charge of the Educational Committee, Mrs. E. N. L. Walton, chairman. It will be an all day session, the morning to be devoted to "School Room Decoration," and the afternoon to "Humane Education and Moral Training in Connection with the Public Schools."

The date and further details will be announced in the next number.

The Year Book for 1899-1900 shows 100 clubs in the Maine Federation and a membership of 4,500.

The mid-winter meeting of the Maine Federation is to be held by invitation with the Ammonconglin Club of Westbrook, Mrs. Isabel T. Ray, president. The subjects for discussion are: No. 1, "An Old Home Week for Maine: Its Benefit to the State," Mrs. Christine Stephens, Norway Lake; "How the Federation Can Help to Bring It About," (to be supplied.) No. 2, "Our Relation to the General Federation in Taxation and Representation." Discussion opened by Mrs. Alice Frye Briggs, past president.

CONNECTICUT.

Connecticut will be interested to know that the State table at the Fair in the Vendome Hotel, Boston, for the New England Hospital has been very successful. Mrs. T. K. Noble was asked to have charge of this table and she requested each Club in the Federation, and each Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Connecticut to contribute one article. The response was generous, amounting to 300 articles and \$95.00 in money. Some of the societies contributed something from every member, while others sent one considerable gift as a Club contribution.

Mrs. Noble has received the consideration and attention in her native State of Massachusetts, which she deserves. She has spoken under her specialty "Parliamentary Law" before important associations and has had many invitations to social functions.

The reports from the Clubs will be found following in alphabetical order. All news so far received by your editor is given.

BRIDGEPORT—COLONNA ART SOCIETY.

This society has for its object "The advancement of art and the promotion of good fellowship between artists and art followers." It has a commodious clubroom in a beautiful studio building on a main street. Its meetings are the second and last Friday of each month. It has business, lecture and social meetings and a duplicate whist circle, besides an exhibit and sale each December. Its calendar is a model of orderly arrangement. It bears upon its cover the Colonna coat of arms, with its motto, "Semper Immota." It numbers at present 91 members and the dues are \$5.00 a year. Its annual meeting was held Oct. 13th, at which time the Treasurer's report showed a surplus over last season's and fifteen new members were added. The President's address followed the history of the Club from its inception, and her argument was principally along the line of valuable advice. Her re-election showed the high regard in which she is held by her associates. The officers for the next year are as follows: Pres. Miss Julia Frances Lewis; vice presidents, Mrs. A. A. Calhoun, Miss Gertrude Bradley, Mrs. Wm. O. Laughna, Miss Elizabeth Platt, Mrs. E. J. Hawley, Miss H. L. Eames. Cor. Sec., Mrs. Herbert Smyth. Rec. Sec., Mrs. C. P. Van Alstyne; Treas., Mrs. Wm Richardson.

Nov. 3d., the newly elected Board entertained the Society at a tea, where the program consisted of an afternoon of original stories by one of the officers of the State Federation, and music.

The room was charmingly treated in red and white, the club colors, and the sociability was much promoted by the delicious viands served.

The exhibit and sale took place the first week in December in the clubroom. It consisted of china, needlework, embroidery and wood carving, the water-color and oil paintings being shown at another time. Some of the painters in china whose work is especially spoken of are: Mrs. Laughna, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Ten Eyck, Mrs. Royse, Miss J. F. Lewis, Mrs. Fred. Beach, Miss H. B. Hurd and Miss Jennie L. Smith. In needlework Mrs. Selleck and Mrs. Warnes. In embroidery, Mrs. Taft, Miss Minnie Hull, Miss Paterson, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Evelyn Odell, Mrs. A. B. Beers, Miss Robinson and Miss Segee. In wood carving, Miss Bradley and Miss De Forest. In a Japanese Tea Room tea was served each day, different officers and members presiding in turn.

AUTHORS', BOOK EXCHANGE, ROUND TABLE.

These three clubs united in giving a social evening Nov. 21st, in the pretty parlors of the Park Avenue Church. Each member of each club was allowed to extend one invitation to an outsider, and there were many gentlemen present. The program was a "Story-Teller's Evening," the stories being interspersed with music. Delicious refreshments were served. This combination of three clubs in giving an entertainment seems a particularly happy idea, promoting the good fellowship which is so much to be desired.

BRIDGEPORT LEAGUE OF KERAMIC ART.

A particularly valuable meeting of this club was held recently at the home of Mrs. W. B. Cornwall, Mrs. North Osgood, president of the National League of Mineral Painters, being the guest of honor. The object of Mrs. Osgood's visit was to assist the Bridgeport League in forming plans for the Paris Exposition exhibit, ample space for which has been obtained. The league has reason to feel proud of the honor paid it, as it has received an unsolicited invitation to forward its exhibit by government transport, a privilege heretofore given to no one. The National League has been asked to make competitive designs for a government table service and each member of the Bridgeport League was invited to submit a design. A prize medal will be awarded to the design considered by a set of judges to be the best. The china used must be American pottery.

After an admirable paper by Mrs. Cogswell upon "Keramics at the time of Washington and Jackson," the criticising of specimens of handiwork was taken up. This month's competition was upon vases and the critic of the day suggested that they all be sent to Paris, she was so pleased with the specimens.

The annual exhibit of the work of the league took place during the week beginning Dec. 4th, in the spacious parlors of the Atlantic Hotel. Fully 2000 persons availed themselves of the opportunity of viewing the exhibit. The arrangement of the rooms was most beautiful. The walls were hung with water colors and there were many tables. The first evening a brilliant reception was given, and each afternoon tea was dispensed in the east parlor. The tables were presided over by Mesdames Doremus, Horton, Holzer, Strickland, Hitchcock, and the Misses Hurd, Hanson, Jackson, Gilbert, Cornwall and Kinsley. The President of the League, Mrs. Frank Kinsley, was in charge of the table containing the Paris exhibit. Some of the pictures on the walls were the work of Mrs. W. B. Cogswell, Miss Gilbert, Miss Cornwall, Mrs. Hitchcock and Miss Hawley. Among the pieces for Paris were a vase by Mrs. Strickland, and a chop-plate by Mrs. Doremus. Other exhibitors of miniatures, bronze vases and china were Miss Hurd, Miss Hanson, the Misses Damon, Jackson and Read, and Mrs. Holzer.

The Women's Educational Club of East Haddam, whose

plan of study is along the line of current events, or, as the constitution has it, "the topics of the day," studied for the four meetings during November and December, the general topic of the Philippines. For the first meeting of November (8th):—The Philippine Islands, their climate, natural features, resources and industries; second, the inhabitants, their early history, characteristics, customs and religion; third, their history under Spanish rule to the time of the battle of Manila Bay; fourth, the war between the Filipinos and Americans, and the present situation. The topics for study in this club have usually been assigned by the individual members in alphabetical order, involving a change of subjects at each meeting.

The plan of choosing one general topic for four meetings is an experiment with the subject above mentioned.

HARTFORD—HEARTHSTONE CLUB.

This is a literary club which does valuable and practical work. It reports a most interesting meeting in Unity Hall the evening of Nov. 6th. The first part of the evening was given to the discussion of famous clergymen of the United States, and this was followed by a paper by Miss Alida B. Clark upon "Old Age and Disability Pensions," a subject which is receiving much attention from students of social problems. Miss Clark made herself known throughout the State by a valuable paper upon "Vacation Schools" several years ago, and has herself been in charge of one of these schools for several summers. She is a most thorough student. The value of such a paper as she gives, and the amount of research required to write one cannot be overestimated. Mrs. Follett was chairman of the meeting just described.

WATERBURY—WOMEN'S CLUB.

The Art and Literature Committee were in charge of the meeting Oct. 24th. The program was "The Legends, History and Architecture of Ely Cathedral." Three papers were read, the first by Miss Cairnes on "The Legends of the Cathedral," in which she traced the history of its founders. The second paper was by Miss Wells upon the "History of the Cathedral," and of the county where it is situated. The third by Mrs. W. H. Camp, upon "The Architecture of the Cathedral." Mrs. Camp described the beauty and magnificence of the structure and the great variety of architectural periods it represents. She illustrated her subject with a large diagram and photographic views. A song by Miss Trumbull followed.

Nov. 14th the literary program was a lecture by Miss Catherine Aiken, the specialist, upon "Methods of Mind Training." She was listened to with much interest by a large number, more than 200 being present. Many teachers availed themselves of the invitation extended to them by the club to listen to Miss Aiken, who presented her subject in a fascinating manner. Miss Aiken is a woman of magnificent presence and most impressive upon her chosen topic. Miss Zulette Wilson sang.

Nov. 28th the Science Committee had charge of the meeting, and a most delightful entertainment was provided in the lecture by Mrs. Mabel Loomis Todd on "An Eclipse in Ainu Land." Mrs. Todd is a young woman of charming personality, a graphic fluent speaker and held the closest attention of her audience throughout the lecture.

WOODBURY—WOMAN'S CLUB.

Here is a bright idea for an entertainment originated by the Woodbury Woman's Club.

They gave a gentleman's night, and invited the gentlemen not only to be guests but entertainers. They promptly availed themselves of the privilege and gave some talking tableaux, Dr. D. R. Rodger being chairman. There were two scenes in what was called "A Clubwoman's Monday Morning." A young man in woman's costume was disclosed at the washtub with

children totally neglected and crying from hunger, no dinner, because the woman was hurrying to get away to the meeting of the club. The next scene revealed the same dame in very different costume, reading a paper upon "The Non-interference of Club Life with Domestic Duties," and suggesting the organization of a club among the gentlemen. The clubwomen, all men, of course, all talked at once, and acted in a very unparliamentary manner, so that the meeting broke up in confusion, and this gave the ladies opportunity to serve refreshments. One can easily see what a capital chance for local hits such an entertainment would give.

Dotha Stone Pinneo.

The attention of state editors and club correspondents is called to Miss Pinneo's report. "Go thou and do likewise."—Editor.

MICHIGAN.

The following report of the Household Economics Committee was read at the annual convention at Jackson, in November:

Believing that good should ever be advertised, your committee sought to further the work of their predecessors by recommending the study of the six programs on Household Economics prepared and distributed by the committee of last year. We have responded to twenty-five requests for the programs.

Your chairman has written seventy-five letters, delivered ten addresses before club boards of education and institutes in the interest of Household Economics.

Wishing to know the interest clubs take in this department, we find that more than one-fourth of the federated clubs are studying questions relating to home life and the education of children. We have interested two unfederated clubs in household economics and hope they will soon ask for admission to Federation.

Believing that household economics is educational in the highest sense, your committee tried to co-operate with the educational committee, hoping to accomplish more by united effort, but circumstances prevented co-operation.

Knowing that "a strong soul should be strong to live as well as strong to think," we decided to work for a more practical education for the future home builder, and issued a circular asking clubs to work for the introduction of household arts in the public schools, asking that a committee be appointed to arouse public sentiment in this direction. One hundred circulars were sent to clubs.

Your committee tried to ascertain the number of schools in our state teaching household arts. State Supt. Hammond writes that no statistics have as yet been collected. He kindly gave us some information. We find ten schools teaching household arts wholly or in part. Kalamazoo has just put in the work, and one hundred and forty-five girls from the High School voluntarily took the work. In answer to queries as to methods and results we find most superintendents are ardent advocates of household arts in public schools. Supt. McKenzie of Muskegon writes that the work does not interfere with the academic course; that girls take it up with enthusiasm, and he believes that it will revolutionize the home.

We believe that education is important just so far as it touches life, and that household economics, through the home life, touches all life. Therefore we ask your careful consideration of the following suggestions:

The work is but just begun. Will the Federation carry it on until household arts are taught in every school where girls are educated?

Some Federations support traveling libraries. Why not

Michigan State Federation work for the symmetrical education of her future home builders?

Let every club make household arts as popular as music or painting, teaching that the architect of the body is a greater artist than he who with hammer and chisel makes the perfect semblance of the human form.

Will the Federation make special effort to introduce the teaching of household arts in the State Normal School? The time is soon coming when the teacher will be required to fit the pupils for the home and shop as well as for colleges.

Your committee would further suggest that the state committee on household economics be composed of women willing to write or speak in the interest of the department. That they be instructed to visit schools where household arts are taught, to investigate methods and study results. That they hold themselves ready to assist clubs in procuring demonstrated lectures on cooking, etc.

Will not each club prepare a list of books on subjects pertaining to home life, add to the list a good household magazine like the American Kitchen Magazine—I know of none better—hand the list to the library board, asking that the books be put in circulation for the help of housewives and mothers.

Write an article for the papers calling attention to the new books and their helpful features.

Let the clubs find out their artistic darning, the gifted needle woman of the club, and then arrange with the superintendent of the school, if finances are low and there is lack of interest in the introduction of household arts, to give two periods a week of one hour each to the fifth and sixth grades for instruction in darning and mending, to awaken interest in the work.

Believing that when household arts are taught in every public school in our state, and ideals and things sustain their proper relation, for the real worth of things is found in keeping ideals high, labor will be invested with new dignity and the domestic service problem settled.

Let us as club women work for the universal establishment of that most beautiful ornament of the state, a happy home, and life's highest condition, its well ordering, ever remembering that it is woman's mission to make the whole world homelike.

The report was signed by Mrs. Ella S. Custard, Mrs. M. K. Buck, Mrs. S. M. B. Fox, Mrs. Eulalia Barrows, Miss Ada Brown.

WISCONSIN.

One of the distinctive features of the Wisconsin Federation is the district conventions, which bring to club women unable to attend the state convention much of the help and stimulus of the larger gathering. The first meeting of the fifth district was held in Waukesha on Tuesday, Nov. 21, on invitation of the four federated clubs of that city. The district vice-president, Mrs. Walter H. Wright, presided, and on the platform with her was Mrs. Arthur C. Neville, president of the Federation. The program included an address of welcome by Mrs. Cory, responded to by Mrs. Williams of Sheboygan, followed by five-minute reports from the sixteen clubs represented. Mrs. Beck of Milwaukee, president of the Biennial local board, spoke entertainingly of the approaching Biennial, and Mrs. Morris urged an alliance with the General Federation. The subject of the reorganization of the parent society was presented by Mrs. Neville and Mrs. Morris and fully discussed, but no action was taken. A symposium of Federation interests in which Miss Stearns, Mrs. Foley, Miss Whitford and Mrs. Frame read papers, followed by a general discussion, was one of the most valuable features of the convention.

The local arrangements were admirably planned and executed. An informal reception was held in the parlors of the

church, open for the meeting, and luncheon was served during the noon hour. In the evening two excellent addresses were delivered. Miss Ellen C. Sabin, president of the Milwaukee-Downer College, spoke on the Twentieth Century Outlook for Education, and Mrs. Neville on the Beginning of Wisconsin History.

MINNESOTA.

The fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota State Federation of Women's Clubs was held in St. Cloud on October 17, 18, 19, 20. The following program was presented:

Tuesday, October 17.—Meeting of executive board, 1.30 to 2.00 o'clock. Invocation, Mrs. Geo. R. Kleeberger, Woman's Club, St. Cloud; music, Miss Alma Kaiser, St. Cloud; roll call; St. Cloud's Greeting to the Federation, Mrs. C. L. Atwood, Sorosis, St. Cloud.

Reports of Standing Committees.—Program, Mrs. W. B. Mitchell, St. Cloud; Reciprocity, Mrs. C. S. Crandall, Owatonna; Education, Miss Isabel Lawrence, St. Cloud; Town and Village Improvement, Mrs. J. H. Lewis, Hastings. Discussion of Club Methods of Work: Town and Country Clubs, Mrs. E. H. Lihoyhed, Faribault. Discussion, Special Features, Rest Rooms, Mrs. J. T. Sharkey, Anoka; Libraries, Mrs. C. E. Conant, Wells. Discussion, The Library and the Club, Mrs. Chas. Greenleaf, Litchfield. The Children's Library Department, Mrs. T. J. Abbett, Anoka. Music and Art, Mrs. C. J. Gutgesell, Minneapolis; Household Economics, Mrs. Mary B. James, Minneapolis. Mothers' Clubs, Mrs. W. C. Chapin, St. Paul. Discussion, Methods of Work, Mrs. Mary P. Hunt, St. Paul. Badge, Mrs. H. L. Stark, St. Peter.

Evening Session, 8 o'clock.—Music, Ladies' Chorus of St. Cloud; recognition of new clubs; paper, Recent Events in American History, Mrs. S. H. VanCleve, Study Club, Mantorville; paper, Suggestions to History Clubs, Miss Laura A. Jones, Duluth, vice-president State Federation; music, Ladies' Chorus of St. Cloud; address, Mrs. Sarah S. Platt, Denver; president's address, Miss Margaret J. Evans, Northfield.

Wednesday, October 18, Morning Session.—Reports of clubs, 9.00 to 9.30 o'clock; club conference, reports of officers, 9.30 to 10.00 o'clock; music, Mrs. Woodward, Mrs. Reinhard, St. Cloud; Future Federation Work, Miss Margaret J. Evans, Northfield; paper, The Little Globe, Miss Isabel Lawrence, Reading Room Society, St. Cloud; discussion, Mrs. C. A. Pidgeon, Chautauqua Club, Buffalo; report of the Legislative committee and its work for the National Park, Miss A. F. Lincoln, Northfield; paper, Educational Fallacies, Mrs. Alice Cooley, Minneapolis.

Afternoon Session.—Music, arranged for two pianos, Miss Boyd, Mrs. McClure, Miss Kaiser, Miss Moliter; An Hour in Art, chairman, Mrs. H. C. Burbank, New Century Club, St. Paul; Durer, Mrs. Jennie C. Andrews, Art History Club, Mankato; Rembrandt, Mrs. M. B. Webber, Art Club, Winona; Holbein, Mrs. Omar H. Simonds, Saturday Club, Duluth; Rubens, Mrs. F. B. Godfrey, Art History Club, Minneapolis; music, Miss Smith, St. Cloud; report of Art Interchange committee, Mrs. A. W. Rankin, Minneapolis; informal ballot for state officers.

Wednesday Evening.—Reception to the Federation by the St. Cloud Clubs at the home of Mrs. N. P. Clarke, 356 Third Avenue So.

Thursday, October 19.—Morning Session: Visit to State Normal School from 8.00 to 9.30; business, 9.45 to 10.00; music, Miss Aimee Boyd, St. Cloud; Household Economics, conducted by Mrs. Mary B. James, Minneapolis; The New Broom, Mrs.

William M. Liggett, Household Economic Club, St. Anthony Park; Foods and Their Importance, Miss Adeline Pattee, vice-president National Household Association, St. Paul; Bacteriology, Dr. Jean McLaren, St. Paul; Domestic Service, Mrs. C. S. Cairns, Household Economics Club, Minneapolis; Art in the Home, Mrs. H. C. Burbank, New Century Club, St. Paul; Municipal Housekeeping, Mrs. Conde Hamlin, Civic League, St. Paul.

Afternoon Session, 2.00 o'clock.—Music; paper, Woman's Work in Our State Hospitals for the Insane, Mrs. H. A. Tomlinson, St. Peter; discussion, Mrs. G. O. Welch, Woman's Club, Fergus Falls; vocal quartette, Mrs. Woodward, Miss Brigham, Miss Jerrard, Miss Doud; Applied Sociology, Mrs. L. P. Williams, Minneapolis; election of officers.

Evening Session.—Introduction of new officers; Uncut Leaves, Magic Black and White, story by Miss Lily A. Long, New Century Club, St. Paul; The Tragedy of a Blue Dot; A Negative Affirmative, plays by Miss Grace B. Whittredge, St. Paul; The Press Club, Miss Mayme Jester, Duluth; A Tourist's Tour, Miss Martha Scott Anderson, Minneapolis; music.

Friday, October 20.—Executive Board meeting, 9.00 to 10.00 o'clock. Drive to State Reformatory.

Among so many fine papers and discussions it would be almost impossible to select one or two as specially worthy of praise; but we can speak of the great pleasure given not only to the Federation women, but to the remainder of the audience as well, by the address of Mrs. Sarah S. Platt of Denver, the vice-president of the General Federation. Mrs. Platt, as every one knows, is always a good speaker, notwithstanding her modest disclaimer of such ability, but it seemed as though she was at her very best on that evening. Clear in her thought, happy in her illustration, forceful in her argument, each word was listened to eagerly, and regretful looks were seen everywhere when she was obliged to close, in order to take a train which was to bear her to the expectant North Dakota Federation meeting.

One feature of the work of the Federation which was reported as having been taken up during the past year is rather unique and deserves especial mention here. During the week of the state fair in September, a fine building on the fair grounds was placed at the service of the Federation women by the state fair management. This building was placed in charge of a committee on reception, and all day long and every day of that week, women were there to receive guests, both club women and those who were not thus affiliated. From 11 to 12 each day programs were given in a hall in this building, under the auspices of different committees of the Federation, on such subjects as Art, Education, Libraries, Household Economics, etc. The talks and discussions at these meetings were exceedingly practical, and much good will surely be the result. In the afternoons, in the same hall, short musical programs were given by some of the best talent in the state; and from 4 until 6 o'clock tea was served to visitors in daintily arranged tea-rooms. The idea underlying this work was not so much to reach the club women themselves as to bring all this work before the many women who are in the habit of attending the meetings of the state fair, but have never come in touch with Federation work. While the numbers of this class who were reached this year were not large, still an encouraging beginning was made, and it is hoped and intended that this work shall be continued next year.

The reports of the work accomplished in various parts of the state by Town and Village Improvement Societies, and in the way of rest-rooms for farmers' wives and children, is also deserving of special mention.

The commission in charge of the free traveling library sys-

tem of the state report that their libraries will be ready for use with the beginning of the year.

Other committees report good seed sown in their fields, even if less tangible results are yet seen.

To the great sorrow of the Federation as a whole, Miss Margaret Evans, their beloved president from the beginning of the work in this state, announced that she would not consider the matter of a re-election. The women of the Federation have felt very proud of their president, as she is a woman who is not only loved and revered by her own circle, but throughout the state and even the nation. Such a woman at the head of an organization not only guides it wisely and safely, but adds her own dignity and prestige to the body over which she presides; and feeling all this so fully, it was with the greatest regret that the women of the Federation yielded to Miss Evans' decision and did not re-elect her.

One of the very pleasant features of the meeting was the presentation to Miss Evans on the last evening of a diamond star, as an expression of the love borne her by the whole body over which she has presided so long and so acceptably.

The next annual meeting of the Federation will be held in Duluth in October, 1900. There are now one hundred and nineteen clubs belonging to this body.

Following is the list of officers for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Lydia P. Williams, Minneapolis; vice-president-at-large, Miss Laura A. Jones, Duluth; vice-president of First Congressional District, Mrs. T. S. Allen, Dodge Center; vice-president Second Congressional District, Mrs. H. A. Tomlinson, St. Peter; vice-president Third Congressional District, Mrs. J. H. Lewis, Hastings; vice-president Fourth Congressional District, Mrs. A. T. Bigelow, Merriam Park, St. Paul; vice-president Fifth Congressional District, Mrs. H. A. Tuttle, Minneapolis; vice-president Sixth Congressional District, Mrs. W. B. Mitchell, St. Cloud; vice-president Seventh Congressional District, Mrs. G. O. Welch, Fergus Falls; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Chas. E. Conant, Wells; recording secretary, Mrs. J. C. Buchanan, Minneapolis; auditor, Mrs. G. H. Ranney, St. Paul; historian, Mrs. S. H. Van Cleve, Mantorville.

TENNESSEE.

Tennessee was one of the first states to welcome the formation of the G. F. W. C., and contributed the important office of corresponding secretary to its first board of officers. This was filled by Miss Mary Temple of Knoxville, president for many years of the famous Ossoli Circle. The Tennessee Federation was formed in 1896 at a meeting in Knoxville called by Ossoli. Mrs. Henrotin was present at the meeting and made a strong address on the philosophy of club life. The president chosen at that time was Mrs. Wm. D. Beard of Memphis, who has filled the position ever since with entire satisfaction to her many admirers, both in the state and out of it. That first meeting will long be remembered by Tennessee women as an important milestone in their club history. It closed with a brilliant reception given by Miss Temple to the D. A. R., Mrs. Henrotin and the convention. Judge Temple's home is one of the historic places of Knoxville and famous for its hospitality and this reception formed a delightful close to that important meeting.

The Tennessee Federation today is an active, practical influence throughout the state. Its work is along educational lines, travelling libraries, university extension and reciprocity. During the last few months it has been a tremendous power in stirring up the city superintendents of public schools and rousing teachers to a new appreciation of their responsibility. As a direct result of Federation work many teachers have been taking courses at Chicago University and at Cornell—a glorious

result of the agitation of educational needs in the State Federation's meetings for two years past. Tennessee is also one of the first states to recognize household economics as a department of state work, with Miss Mary Temple as chairman, which will ensure some excellent results.

Miss Temple is one of the most active clubwomen of the country, having always been closely connected with Ossoli Circle and State Federation work. She is also vice president general for Tennessee of the D. A. R., and has a great deal to do with the literary work of her father in bringing out his notable histories that are now attracting so much attention throughout the country. Delegates to Denver will recall her as a charming young woman, a splendid speaker and a valiant worker for the election of Mrs. Lowe.

Having once had the "Club Woman" we could not well do without it. It has been a real support and pleasure to us. I wish you would send a few sample copies to some of our women; there are a number who ought to have it. I circulate every number of mine, but do not like it to go too far astray, as so often we want to refer to something. We are taking up Russia this year from your plans. Mrs. Grace Hunter,

President Woman's Club of Phoenixville, Pa.

We could not do without The Club Woman. In our far away Northwest it is much to us all. Success attend you.—Mrs. Albert Powell, Devils Lake, North Dakota.

You cannot, if you value good health, afford to use cheap, low-grade alum baking powders.

They are apt to spoil the food and waste good materials.

They do endanger the health. All physicians will tell you that alum in food is deleterious.

The difference of cost between a good and poor powder would not amount for a family's supply to one dollar a year. The poor powder would cost you more than this in doctors' bills.

Royal Baking Powder may cost a little more per can, but it insures perfect, wholesome food, and is more economical in the end.

THE FOSTER MOTHER OF THE WORLD.

IF all the world has not a foster mother in the cow that portion of it which is most representative of its progress and civilization certainly has. In those countries where there is today a high standard of intelligence, of morality, and of all those factors incident to man's best estate there is found the cow in her highest state of development as regards her ability at pail and churn. It is in those countries also that the cow has its greatest appreciation and most thorough recognition as man's best friend in the whole animal kingdom. A just appreciation of the practical worth of a cow and her proper and intelligent keeping are proofs in themselves of the intelligence of the man and nation. In all those countries where the upbuilding and glorification of the home and family have been the chief objects in the lives of men the cow has been the greatest of all the means to this end, and as these men and communities have advanced in civilization the cow under their care has been bred to that type representative of the ideal, whether it be as a cheese or butter cow or partaking of the nature of both.

It is of interest to note that those countries in which the cow has been long a feature of their material existence, there also one finds the highest and best types of domestic or household economy. Milk is a naturally organized food. Its tendency is to nourish every atom or principle of the body and thus create a perfectly balanced whole. For ages, but never more so than at present, the Scotch have been known for strength of body and of intellect.

Scotland is a land of scholars. In every department of literature her sons have become noted for the excellence and power of their productions. As novelists, poets, and all that belongs to literary effort, the Scotch have excelled. But Scotland is the home of that matchless beauty of a cow called the Ayrshire, the milk of which is so peculiarly adapted to the needs and nature of the human system. The hills and valleys of Scotland swarm with these cattle and for centuries the Ayrshire cow has been a factor of greatest importance in the economy of the country. The Ayrshire is especially valuable for the quantity and quality of her milk considered solely as an article of food and not from its value for butter and cheese making. While the Scotch eat cheese and other milk products in considerable quantities they are to a much greater extent users of whole milk.

A second country that has played an important part in the world's progress is little Holland. Even today she is familiarly called "brave little Holland," and also the "land of pluck." The keystone of the arch of her national economy is the cow known the world over as the Holstein-Friesian. For two thousand years the progressive farmers of the Netherlands have been breeding her to the perfect type of dairy cow she is today. Milk, milk dishes and milk products have for centuries constituted well nigh the basis of Dutch living, and the same is as true as ever today.

The Duke of Alva, when he marched forth in his disastrous attempt to subjugate the Netherlands, said the people of that country were men of butter and could not fight. But events proved that milk-fed men made the best of soldiers, for they were alike sound of body and mind. The basis of Dutch agriculture is the Dutch cow and the basis of Dutch prosperity is its agriculture, distinguished though it is for its maritime and industrial interests. The Dutch intellect, as manifested in the arts

and sciences, in music, politics and literature, has ever been the admiration of the world. Dutch institutions, ideas, customs and systems have endurance. They have been among the world's best teachers of civilization and all that tends to bring about the ideal home and home life. The world would hardly know how to exist were there to be taken from it all that was original with the Dutch home.

New England, New York, Pennsylvania and other states of the American Union, have many reasons to feel grateful toward Holland and its institutions for what is of the best in their home life today. For nearly two hundred years after the settlement at Plymouth milk and milk dishes formed a very essential portion of the New England bill of fare. Three years after the landing of the Pilgrims there came to them in the ship "Anne" a herd of four or five cows. The descendants of these cows and other importations that followed essentially supplied the colonists with thrifty herds that grazed upon the hillsides, and the New England men and women and boys and girls had milk in greatest abundance. Ere many years the yeomanry of New England was noted for its strength, sturdiness and power. The men of those days worked indeed with hand, head and heart. Their Pilgrim ancestors had learned to do this during their eleven years' sojourn in Holland, whither they had fled for refuge from persecution in their own native England.

Returning again to Europe to find other countries the people of which subsist largely upon milk, Switzerland comes easily into mind. Switzerland, the land of freedom and of government by pure democracy. The land of the school house and scholars is likewise a country whose Alpine slopes have for ages been grazed by thousands upon thousands of cows. Switzerland is rural if nothing else. Her population is largely made up of farmers whose little holdings, on the average, hardly exceed eight acres in extent. Yet by his skill, industry and intelligence the Switzer has made his land worth from six hundred to sixteen hundred dollars per acre. Switzerland is a land that flows with milk. It has been chief food of the people from time almost immemorial. Switzerland is a land free from pauperism, of militarism, in the accepted meaning of the term, and from ignorance.

In these present days the most intelligent students of physiology and members of the medical fraternity are urging more than ever the importance of pure milk as an article of food. With milk there is nothing that equals shredded whole wheat biscuit to make a perfect diet. The biscuit, because of its containing all the nutritive principles of the wheat, is bound to digest the milk. Uniting the biscuit and milk permits the consumption of the latter by degrees which is not apt to be the case when the milk is taken alone. The assimilation of shredded whole wheat biscuit and milk is easy and natural, as is to be supposed from the fact that both are naturally organized foods.

If the mothers of the New England of today would but follow the example of their ancestors of colonial days and feed to their children an abundance of milk together with shredded whole wheat biscuit then their children would be free from bad teeth, rickety bones and dyspepsia.



TEXAS.

At the recent meeting of the executive board of the Texas State Federation of Women's Clubs the wheels within the wheels of club machinery were put in motion, and the women of our state will look for great and far-reaching results from the new committee work. A quorum being present action was taken upon the following questions:

1. The reorganization of the General Federation, the president to appoint a committee of three to act upon Federation business and to draw up a plan of reorganization to be submitted to the clubs for their approval. Each club in the Federation is asked to send to Mrs. Geo. W. Kendrick, Jr., corresponding secretary, Philadelphia, Pa., for a copy of the charter and by-laws of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, to aid the members in intelligently discussing the proposed changes that an expression of opinion may be obtained before the annual meeting of the Texas State Federation.

2. Committee on music. This committee having been appointed before the State Musical Federation was formed, its chairman is requested to act in harmony with the president of the State Musical Federation and to offer her services to further the movement.

3. That Mrs. Lowe, president of the National Federation, be invited to attend the meeting in San Antonio in the spring as the guest of the Texas State Federation.

At the annual meeting last April a new clause was added to the Constitution, providing for eleven standing committees. These are home economics or domestic and sanitary science, libraries, reciprocity bureau, music, art, literature, history, education, club extension, village improvement and printing. The chairman of the various committees met with the board for conference. The corresponding secretary reported six new applications for membership, making a total of eighty-six clubs now in the Federation.

The establishment of public libraries is paramount to every other interest among the club women, and small and remote indeed is the club without some discussion of this subject. The success of the movement, its general and far-reaching effect is wonderful, when one considers the time and means at command. Four different towns, Fort Worth, Dallas, Denison and Houston, have received from Mr. Andrew Carnegie the sum of fifty thousand dollars each for a building fund. Several smaller sums have been given other towns. This great philanthropist is planting his gifts wisely and well. Four traveling libraries are in operation; the one in McLennan county, sent out by the Woman's Club of Waco, consists of 16 cases, with 600 books, and is meeting with great success in the many little villages in the county. This library was modeled on the one first sent out

in Wisconsin by Senator Stout of Dunn county. "So far one little candle throws its rays." There is a strong interest in club extension, and club extension in Texas means social service of the highest sort,—the opening up of the waste places in the isolated districts, the bringing women almost cut off from their kind into correspondence with each other, and making a way, mayhap, for some eager soul to meet and confer with her sisters on the many subjects that fill the hearts of the home-makers in this new and in some parts yet pioneer state.

Village improvement comes in for a share of attention. The clubs engaged in the study of state history are not a few; and well may the daughters of Texas love her history! No state in the Union can point with greater pride to her heroes. What other besides Texas can boast of her Alamo? "Thermopylae had her messenger of defeat, the Alamo had none."

The new president of the Texas Federation, Mrs. J. C. Tenell of Fort Worth, is a clear seeing, painstaking, hard-working leader. That club work in Texas will have a wonderful impetus this year is a foregone conclusion. The work is here, the way is open, the workers are many and the inspiration not wanting.

K. S. R.

This called meeting of the executive board of the Texas Federation sent such an earnest entreaty to Mrs. Edward Rotan to remain state chairman of correspondence (Mrs. Rotan had resigned in September) that she consented to do so.

TO PARIS.

Among the women who have been particularly successful in special lines of business Mrs. M. D. Frazar deserves conspicuous notice, for she ranks among the foremost in our country as a manager of parties for foreign travel. Her patrons have always been of the highest social standing, and only the highest commendation has been expressed for the admirable care and good taste that mark all the arrangements made for the comfort and enjoyment of the Frazar parties.

A series of high-class and most attractive tours at reasonable prices have been arranged for 1900, and each one includes a visit to the great Exposition at Paris, many of the parties taking the Mediterranean route to Italy. There is a special party for the Daughters of the American Revolution and their friends, which will be in Paris for the great day of the United States, when the Lafayette Monument will be given to the city with splendid ceremonial that will involve special features of attraction for us, and the D. A. R. in particular.

Mrs. Frazar's tours are advertised in another column, and we heartily commend them to the consideration of our readers.

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COLORADO.

The Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs held its fifth annual convention at Denver October 24th and 25th, by invitation of the Woman's Club of that city. It seems to have been the general opinion that never was a more enthusiastic or larger attendance in the history of the Federation. None could have been more charming hostesses than these loyal Denver women. The arrangements, both in a social and business way, were perfect. Unity Church, the headquarters of the Woman's Club, was artistically decorated with the columbine colors, blue and white, with a profusion of palms and ferns. The regular program opened Tuesday morning with a most cordial and graceful welcome from Mrs. Whitmore, president of this wonderful Woman's Club of Denver, responded to by Mrs. Baker, president of the Federation, in her usual happy manner. Reports were then given by the different officers, giving evidence of the work being done by this Federation. The morning session closed at twelve o'clock, when the guests were served with an elegant luncheon in the club parlors, after which an informal reception was held until the opening of the afternoon session, at two o'clock. After reports from the traveling library and philanthropy and reform committees a paper entitled "The Place of Fiction in History" was beautifully read by Mrs. Henry White Callahan of the Fortnightly Club of Boulder.

Tuesday evening Mrs. Gilbert McClurg, chairman of the committee on preservation and restoration of the Cliff and Pueblo ruins, gave a very fine lecture, illustrated by large stereopticon views of these wonderful cliff dwellings. Mrs. McClurg is a most enthusiastic and ardent worker and has spent a great deal of time in the southern part of the state, where are situated these ruins. Wednesday morning's session opened with very comprehensive reports from the educational and school legislative committees, followed by discussion. Mrs. Henry Wood of Denver gave an interesting and instructive talk on Domestic Science. Between the hours of twelve and two, all guests of the Federation were bidden to the elegant home of Mrs. T. M. Patterson, where a most bountiful luncheon was served and a most courteous welcome was extended to each and every one. The afternoon session was filled by three papers and the election of delegates and alternates to the Biennial at Milwaukee. Mrs. Frost of the Anne Hathaway Shakespeare Club of Colorado Springs read a very interesting paper on "The Small Literary Club." Mrs. Wadsworth of the Woman's Club of Grand Junction gave a charming paper entitled "Some Phases of Club Life." A very bright and witty paper, "Duty of the Club to the Public," was read by Mrs. Briggs of the Woman's Club of Victor. One of the most enjoyable features of this convention was the lively discussion following all reports and papers. The convention closed Wednesday evening with a grand concert given by the musical clubs of the Federation. The committee on music is a new committee this year and is a most valuable addition to the committees and to the annual meeting, as by the assistance of the musical part of the Federation, some one facetiously remarked, the fifth annual convention closed in harmony. A second vice-president was elected, Mrs. W. H. Kister of Denver. The Western Club Woman was formally adopted as the official organ of the C. F. W. C. A reciprocity bureau was formed and an art committee was appointed.

The Colorado Federation is still progressing, ten new clubs being added at this meeting. Our total number will probably reach one hundred and twelve clubs for the year 1900.

Katherine Wise, Cor. Sec. C. F. W. C.

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OREGON.

Since the meeting of the clubs to organize a State Federation, October 25th, two new clubs have been organized in the state and have made application for membership in the Oregon Federation. It is a significant fact that each of these clubs was organized by women who had been interested in club work in other places; one by a former member of Sorosis, and the other by a good club woman from Pendleton. It has been suggested that it would be well in our state to have a "club organizer" to do club missionary work, something after the manner of fraternal orders. This would be, it seems to the writer, not quite necessary. Each club woman, if she has the true spirit, may be a missionary. A woman that has been a good club woman will not live long in a new environment before she will form a club, if there is none, and she may surely feel at liberty to say, if there is one, I, too, belong with you.

At the board meeting of the Oregon Federation, held immediately after the close of the organizing convention, library and education committees were appointed. Plans are being formulated and other committees will be added when the Federation holds its first meeting the first week in June, 1900, at Pendleton. A household economics, or domestic science department seems much needed; if not loudly called for, some of our members feel like "calling loudly" for it.

The seven clubs in our state belonging to the G. F. have been looking up the "industrial question," as recommended by the industrial committee. We cannot well follow the lines suggested by the committee, as our conditions are very unlike those familiar to eastern women, excepting, perhaps, the large demand for domestic service, and the usual very short supply. Some information, however, will be gathered. Adelia D. Wade.

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Its use is perfectly harmless and may be taken by any girl or woman with perfect safety and confidence.

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No woman need suffer if she can get **Caulo**. **Caulo** gives health, strength and happiness.

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Ask your druggist for **Caulo**.

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NO RUBBERS NEEDED WITH THESE BOOTS.

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Correction.—In the December Club Woman you make Mrs. C. B. Wade the state chairman of Oregon. Mrs. Wade was our first chairman, serving us four years. Mrs. J. A. Fee of Pendleton is our present state chairman, having been appointed after the Denver Biennial, Mrs. Wade declining to serve longer. A Club Woman.

THE TRAVELING LIBRARY SYSTEM OF KANSAS.

The traveling libraries of Kansas have been adopted by the state, and on the 1st of July last were given a home in the State House at Topeka.

For several years the K. S. S. T., under the enthusiastic direction of Mrs. W. A. Johnston, devoted its energies to the collection of books for these libraries and sending them out to country districts. Letters were received from many places expressing the thanks of many readers to whom these libraries proved a boon. A strong sentiment was thus created in their favor, and when the club women finally resolved to ask the state to take up and further the work, very little difficulty was experienced. Wherever there was a federated club there were interested workers who interviewed members of the Legislature. When that body met in '98 a committee from the State Federation was on hand with a bill properly drawn in due form. This bill they advocated so eloquently that, with a few changes, it was finally passed, to take effect July 1st, '99. This bill provided for a place in the State House library rooms for the books, three thousand in number, which K. S. S. T. turned over to the state, for the addition to them of a portion of the miscellaneous books of the state library, and for the services of an assistant state librarian, styled Secretary of Traveling Library.

Commission, whose duty it should be to care for and send out libraries on application.

The traveling library commission provided for is composed of five members. The state librarian is chairman and the president of State Federation of Women's Clubs a member by virtue of her office. Three other members were appointed by the Supreme Court. Mrs. W. A. Johnston was made one of these, in recognition of her valuable services in the formation of this traveling library system.

The commission have determined that besides sending out miscellaneous libraries to provide good reading matter wherever needed, they will undertake the higher work. Reference libraries consisting of fifty books each are to be made up for clubs desiring them. From many small towns the word has often come, "We cannot form a study club because we have no books." This need no longer prevent organization, as books will be furnished any club on application. When libraries are once made up on any special topic for a club, they will remain intact for the use of other clubs. They may be retained six months or longer by special permission, or they may be returned sooner and another obtained. When a request comes for a library the secretary fills it so far as advisable from books on hand, but he is empowered to purchase new books to make the library complete. Two thousand dollars were voted by the Legislature for present needs, and the commission feel that the utmost good from this appropriation will result through this careful expenditure. A number of clubs have already taken advantage of this proffered assistance in their studies, and there is no doubt many others will find it to their advantage to do so. Thus the work will widen, the average of intelligence be raised, and learning and scholarship encouraged. Thus justified, further appropriations may be expected. More books can be purchased and the best thought of the world brought within the reach of the humblest citizen of the state.

Mrs. James Humphrey.

Miss M. F. Fisk,

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The Lyndon Woman's Club, which began work in 1892 with a membership of twelve, has been progressing slowly but surely ever since. Our years have been full of helpful study, which has fitted us for the vital questions which are constantly arising.

The regular four years' course of study laid out by the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, the study of Bryce's American Commonwealth, and one year of travel, have helped, and now with the aid of our State Federation, we feel ready to help wherever there is an opportunity.

An afternoon of interest to us in connection with our year of travel was when Mrs. W. P. Smith of the St. Johnsbury Woman's Club (which, by the way, is to my mind a model club), who had visited Scotland and England, kindly consented to give us a lecture on her visit to Melrose and Abbotsford. This was supplemented by photographs of places of interest which she had visited.

Mrs. E. Annie S. May of St. Johnsbury, whom we love to call the "little mother" of our State Federation, as she was our first president, was also an honored guest at this time, and gave us a few encouraging and inspiring words. Wishing to show our sympathy with and appreciation of our public school teach-

ers, we invited them, throughout the town, to be present at this meeting and a large number responded. After our intellectual feast, our hostess served us with dainty refreshments, which is an infallible way of making people feel satisfied with themselves and the world at large.

Our club at the present time numbers fifty, with a waiting list, and though still studying we are ready for the practical every day problems which confront the thinking woman.

Mrs. Herbert Frederick Balch.

Director Lyndon Woman's Club.

The Audubon calendar ought to be in every family where there are children, and in the room of every woman who was ever tempted to wear a bird in her hat; for with such a calendar before one's eyes, it would be impossible not to take a personal interest in our feathered friends, and to learn more about them and love them is to be quite unwilling to have the exquisite little creatures sacrificed for our vanity. The calendar consists of twelve large plates of exquisite drawings of birds, one for each month, reproduced in colors with all the spirit and fidelity of the original water-color paintings. There is a descriptive text of the birds on each plate, and the calendar is indeed a thing of beauty. The price is 75 cents and it is for sale by the Secretary of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 234 Berkeley street, Boston, Mass.

At the recent annual meeting of the Woman's Columbian Club of Boise, Idaho, the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Samuel H. Hays; vice-president, Mrs. A. L. Richardson; secretary, Miss V. B. Black; treasurer, Mrs. H. N. Coffin. This meeting closed a very successful year and it is with much satisfaction that we look backward over the work. Our numbers have increased. Our library has been enlarged by the addition of many new books. Large numbers of people take advantage of our free reading room. The educational committee deserves much credit for the good work done. The traveling library is an established fact and ten cases of books are now in circulation and one new one in course of construction. This committee held an art exhibit which resulted in the purchase of a number of beautiful pictures, which were placed in the rooms of our public schools. We therefore feel that the work done by the club has shown good results, and has been gratefully acknowledged by many persons who have been benefited.

Mary L. Nixon, ex-Secretary.

Boston club women, who have been entertained many times by the Fadettes Women's Orchestra, will be glad to learn of their recent successes in the South. The Fadettes have gained an international reputation, and the press of England, especially in London, has more than once applauded the fame of the organization. They are pre-eminently the most finished woman's orchestral organization in America. The orchestra is conducted by Mrs. Caroline B. Nichols.

We are surprised at the Christmas giddiness of the staid "Club Woman," and hope the editors didn't paint the town as red as its new dress, which, however, is a real beauty, and covers a lot of good reading.—The Rome Georgian.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally, and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. per bottle. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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GEORGE P. BROWN is the editor. The School and Home Department is in charge of an experienced club worker.

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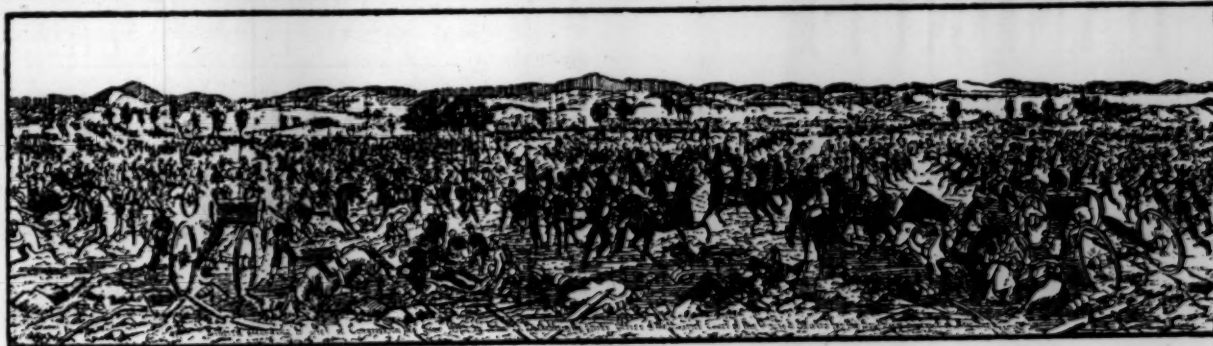
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